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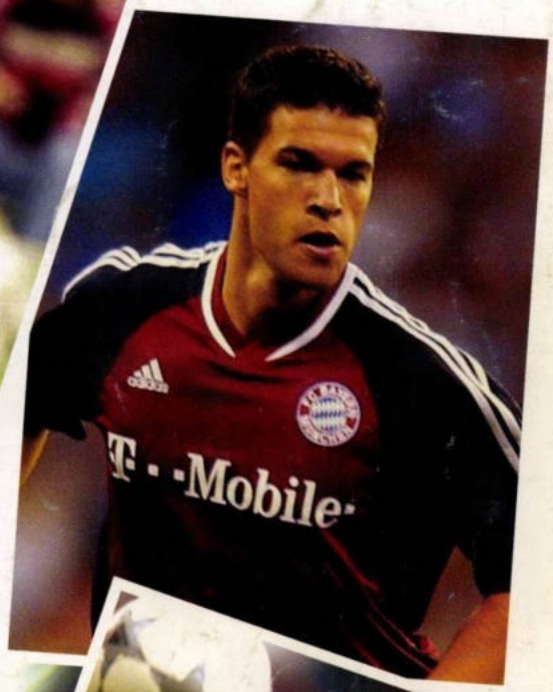

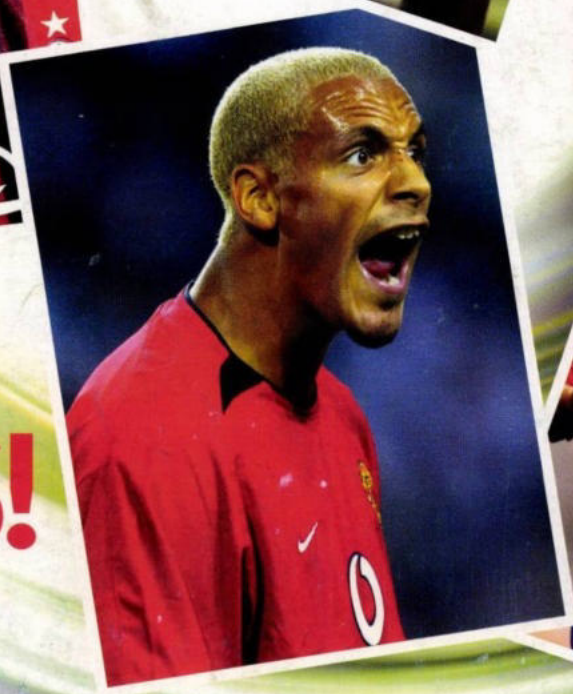

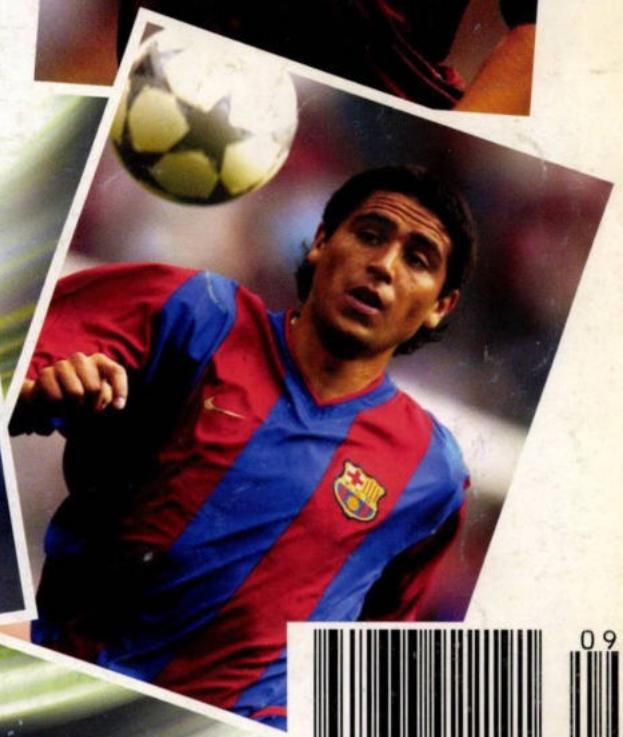

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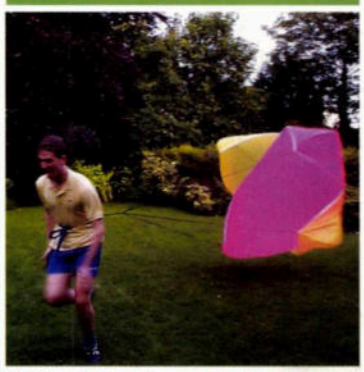

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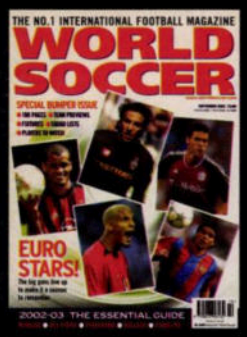

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EDITOR
Gavin Hamilton
ART EDITOR
Gary Payne
PRODUCTION EDITOR
Peter Neish
PICTURE EDITOR
Duncan Bond
NEWS EDITOR
Jamie Rainbow
EDITORIAL SECRETARY
June Hiscock
PICTURES
Empics, Allsport, Reuters, PA Photos

Thanks this issue to
Mike Hughes, David Rallis

EDITORIAL
King's Reach Tower, Stamford Street,
London SE1 9LS
Tel: +44 (0) 20 7261 5737
Fax: +44 (0) 20 7261 7474
E-mail: world_soccer@ipcmedia.com

ADVERTISING
Simon Gerard, Michael McConaghy
PRODUCTION MANAGER Tom Jennings

MANAGING DIRECTOR Sylvia Auton
PUBLISHING DIRECTOR Hamish Dawson
ASSOCIATE PUBLISHER Fiona Mercer

Display Ads +44 (0) 20 7261 5499
Classified Ads +44 (0) 20 7261 2823
Back Issues +44 (0) 20 8532 3628
Back Issues e-mail: ipcback@aol.com

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SUBSCRIPTIONS DEPARTMENT
Rockwood House,
9-17 Perrymount Road, Haywards Heath,
West Sussex RH16 3DH, England
Tel: +44 (0) 1444 475 675

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September 2002

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A NEW SEASON and another bumper issue of *World Soccer*. We've included everything you need to start the campaign primed with information and expert analysis. The only thing missing from this issue is the English fixtures list. As in previous years, the English football authorities demanded that *World Soccer* pay a ridiculous sum of money – almost £10,000 – to publish information which should be freely in the public domain. We declined. However, visitors to our website, www.worldsoccer.com, will be directed to places where they can find the English fixtures.

I find it incredible that as football stumbles into recession across the continent, the English League administrators cannot see the importance of promoting their product – their word, not mine – to the widest possible audience. By restricting information, they are doing themselves, the fans and the game in general a huge disservice.

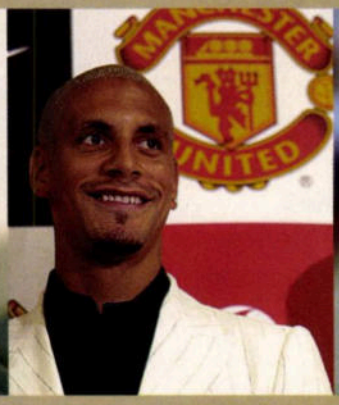
I know I am not the only editor who will not allow the names of the League sponsors to be mentioned on their pages while the 'cash for fixtures' scandal remains. But if the Premier League and Football League continue to operate in such a heavy-handed, small-minded way, then so will I!

The price of *World Soccer* increased by 10 pence from this month due to rising production costs (printers not League chairmen). I hope that does not spoil your enjoyment of this issue – or the season ahead.

Gavin Hamilton, Editor (gavin_hamilton@ipcmedia.com)

The month in pictures

● 22/07/02...Zico agrees to become the new national coach of Japan



● 22/07/02...Rio Ferdinand signs for Manchester United in a £30m transfer

● 25/07/02...Arsenal agree a deal with Juventus to take Uruguayan goalkeeper Fabian Carini on loan for the season

● 26/07/02...Julien Escude of Rennes is a reported target for Man United

FIRST PERSON Alessandro Del Piero

It's time the Spanish and German clubs were knocked off their perch

Raring to go...Alessandro Del Piero

I HAVE to warn everyone that Juventus want to win both the Italian championship and the Champions League this season.

As a squad, we do not think that one must take priority over the other. It's even more important for us because that was also our target last season, only we didn't do ourselves justice because we were eliminated from the Champions League after the second group phase.

I want to win the European title because I think we deserve it – we have a much better squad, for example, than when we won in 1996. Italian clubs have had a poor time of it in the Champions League over the past few years. I believe we can put that right this season. It's time the Spanish and German clubs were knocked off their perch.

It will be a difficult season because there is so much focus on the financial health of the game. From my own point of view, my present contract has two years to run, and I'm not thinking beyond that. The people in charge of Juventus have always run the club responsibly – so we don't have the problems you see at other clubs.

Of course, we also have the shadow of the memory of the World Cup finals hanging over us this season. I am still very bitter. So many things went wrong in Korea and Japan that should not have done. Some of those mistakes we could do nothing about. As for others, well, we have only ourselves to blame For example, everyone in the squad believed we deserved to go a long way in the World Cup, certainly much further than the second round.

Shame, it didn't work out that way. But I think we can learn from the experience, painful as it was at the time. For one thing, I think we could have concentrated a lot more on our attack – especially when you consider all the brilliant forwards we had available. I think, along with Brazil, we had potentially the best attack. We already knew we had a strong defence and one of the best goalkeepers in the world. If you look back at our qualifying campaign, we played a much more attacking sort of game. We often used three forwards and we reached the finals easily.

Personally, I felt very fit, fresh and in great form, and I hoped we would play the way we did on the way to Korea and Japan.

Anyway, we have to look ahead now to the Euro 2004 qualifiers. People say Giovanni Trapattoni is a defensive coach, but that is just not true. I remember when I had just started at Juve and he was coach, we played with three forwards. The great thing about Trap is that he listens to other people's opinions and respects their right to think differently. Obviously, at the end of the day, he has to decide which way he goes. Hopefully, he will put more confidence in us forwards.

Obviously, since I play in attack, I will always believe that this is the key to success. I just think that, given the outstanding players we have in all positions, we can do a lot better than we did in Korea. I don't think many people would disagree with that – either in Italy or abroad. Maybe even in Korea!

> 'With Italy at the World Cup, we could have concentrated a lot more on our attack'

I have been asked whether Marcello Lippi, my coach at Juventus, would make a good national coach one day. Frankly, I don't want to get involved in that debate. Firstly, Lippi has other work to get on with. Secondly, I don't want to cast any shadow across Trapattoni's position. Lippi has a contract with Juventus, Trapattoni has a contract with Italy. That's the start and finish of it.

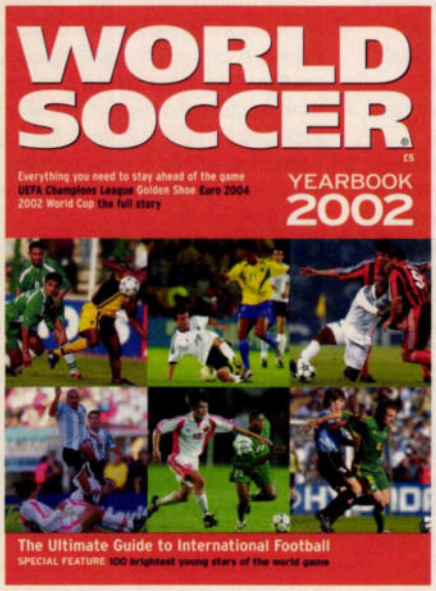
From my own point of view I am as eager for the new season as ever – both with Juventus and Italy. You won't find me retiring from the national team. I am still only 27 and I think I have a lot of big matches left in me.

● 26/07/02...Middlesbrough sign Brazilian Juninho for the third time

● 26/07/02...Milan new boy Jon Dahl Tomasson could already be on his way out of the San Siro

● 31/07/02...Lille draw with Aston Villa in an InterToto Cup semi-final first leg

TALENT SCOUT: THE YEARBOOK 100



The players listed here are all featured in the 2002 World Soccer Yearbook as part of 100 rising stars of the international game. The Yearbook is on sale from September 5, from all good newsagents or from www.worldsoccer.com

FERNANDO CAVENAGHI
(River Plate and Argentina, born 21.09.83)
Top scorer in the last Argentinian championship, he is a superb natural finisher with both feet and with his head. Working hard to add more speed and mobility to his game.

FABRICIO COLOCCINI
(Milan and Argentina, 22.01.82)
Aggressive centre-back doing justice to the big reputation he had as a junior. Commanding in both penalty areas and frequently on the scoresheet. World Youth Cup winner.

ANTHONY LE TALLEC
(Le Havre and France, 03.10.84)
A very special attacking talent. At his best in a slightly withdrawn role, he specialises in the spectacular finish – amazing leaps for headed goals, bicycle kicks, chips and blasts from distance.

MOURAD MEGHNI
(Bologna and France, 16.04.84)
Dubbed the 'new Zidane', and not merely because of his Algerian roots. A playmaker of sublime technique and vision, and he should quickly gain the experience he lacks from his stay in Serie A.

NANDO RAFAEL
(Ajax and Holland, 21.05.84)
Top scorer for the Ajax youth team last season, he has just signed his first professional contract with the club. The ease with which he takes his chances sets him up for a high-flying career. Angola-born but recently acquired a Dutch passport.

FABIO ROCHEMBACK
(Barcelona and Brazil, 10.12.81)
Quality all-round midfielder who emerged with credit from a testing first season in Spain. Tackles fiercely and strikes the ball with class and venom. Needs to curb the excesses of a fiery temperament.

WAYNE ROONEY
(Everton and England, 24.10.85)
Lots of hype surround the teenage Evertonian striker. But he has the mature attitude, rip-roaring speed and dead-eye marksmanship to live up to all the publicity.

SERHAT AKIN
(Fenerbahce and Turkey, 06.05.81)
Another Germany-born Turk knocking hard on the door of the full international side. A forward of great pace, subtlety on the ball and proven goalscoring instincts.

"Notes & quotes"

"Galliani said he wanted to bring down high player wages and then he signs Rivaldo."

Roma star Francesco Totti accuses Milan vice-president Adriano Galliani of double standards.

Payment query...Francesco Totti

"The Italian championship is harder than the Spanish. Each week Rivaldo will have a marker on him who will not allow him to breathe."

Ex-Roma and Brazil midfielder Paulo Roberto Falcao on Rivaldo's move to Serie A.

"The Italians still don't know how to lose. Mussolini was the same when he told the players not to return home from France without the World Cup in 1938."

Byron Moreno, the Ecuadorean referee of the controversial South Korea-Italy match at World Cup 2002, opens up old wounds during a Chilean TV talk show.

The month in pictures

● 02/08/02...Sao Caetano sack coach Jair Picerni two days after losing the Libertadores Cup Final

● 02/08/02...Real Madrid continue their centenary celebrations with a four-team friendly tournament at Estadio Bernabeu

● 02/08/02...Fiorentina fans mourn the death of their club

● 03/08/02...Leverkusen's Jens Nowotny is at the centre of a tax prob

POPPERFOTO

Lighting-up time...Bolton's Corp Howe (left) and Sgt Goslin

Wartime memories

Brian Glanville on a book that reveals how Bolton players saw active service in World War II

DEEP into the last war, in a Midlands barber shop, if I remember correctly – I was a prep school boy at the time – I read a cogent piece by Frank Butler in the *Daily Express*.

When the war began, he said, the pimply young men imagined their sporting heroes jumping out of aeroplanes and leaping on to beaches. Time passed and the pimply young men found to their surprise that they themselves were doing just that while their heroes stayed in Britain, members of the Army or Air Force Physical Training Corps.

'The whole team converged on the Territorial Recruitment Office and signed up for the Bolton Artillery'

This was broadly true. Government policy was to keep professional footballers at home so that, even when scattered across the country and playing as 'guests' for teams not their own, they could entertain a civilian population sorely taxed by bombing, rationing and anxiety.

The actual serving soldiers and certain fans at home were not so happy with the phenomenon. When in 1945 the powerful British Army team, largely made up of PT instructors, toured Italy, Tommy Lawton recalled, they were subjected to the jeers of fighting troops, with choruses of "Come on, the stay-at-home soldiers!"

Thus those established footballers who actually went abroad and fought were in a minority. I knew that two at least of them had died: Harry Goslin, the Bolton Wanderers right-half, who had played for England, and another English international, Leeds United inside-left Ernie Stevenson, who died fighting in Burma. Another casualty was Arsenal player Bobby Daniel, whose bomber was shot down on a raid.

I knew, also, that West Ham United's players had joined the Territorials en bloc when war began. What I didn't know was how Bolton Wanderers footballers not only joined the army in numbers, but gallantly saw service, as an artillery unit, right the way through the war, from France and Dunkirk to the Middle East and right the way up the Italian peninsula, where Goslin, very much the leader in every sense, promoted to be an officer, would be fatally wounded.

All this is recounted in a fascinating book, *Wartime Wanderers: Bolton Wanderers A Football Team at War* by Tim Purcell and Mike Gething (Mainstream Press, paperback, £7.99). The research involved is exhaustive and admirable, the story both exciting and moving, the various characters involved well portrayed. In April 1939 the whole Bolton team converged on the Territorial Recruitment Office and signed on for the 53rd Field Regiment of the Bolton Artillery, in which so many of them would spend the war, including their most gifted player, inside-left Ray Westwood, a Black Country man, born and brought up in Brierley Hill, not far from Birmingham.

At home, Westwood was notorious for never cleaning his own shoes or doing his laundry. Abroad, often involved in ferocious action, he seldom bothered to write to his recently married wife, who once learned he was safe only because a sailor, who had carried Westwood and the other Bolton soldiers on his ship, turned up at the door.

Also among them was Stan Hanson, the Liverpudlian goalkeeper, son of a Norwegian, destined to play 14 years later in the so-called Matthews Final at Wembley; Jack Atkinson, the hefty centre-half; and the maverick young Ernie Forest, as inveterate a gambler as Westwood, and who was given to performing back-flips when he put over a good cross, long before Nigerian striker Julius Aghahowa.

Playing football sporadically but successfully wherever they could, the Boltonians were involved at El Alamein, when Rommel's forces were routed by Montgomery. From North Africa on to Iraq and then to Italy, landing in Taranto. In December 1943, fighting now in the Apennine mountains, the 53rd came under ferocious German pressure. Goslin, barely 35, was mortally wounded in the back when a shell exploded in a tree directly above him. His had been an exemplary war.

Nat Lofthouse, who contributes a heartfelt foreword, mixes in and out of the narrative. It's a riveting book.

● 03/08/02...FIFA president Sepp Blatter hears the case for an Australian World Cup in 2014

● 04/08/02...Ajax and Barcelona meet in a pre-season friendly in Amsterdam

● 04/08/02...Nicky Barmby is Terry Venables' first signing as Leeds manager

DIARY

Ballack lost for words

Bayern Munich's new signing Michael Ballack is having problems settling in at the club – because he is having difficulty understanding the local Bavarian dialect.

Ballack, born and raised in the former communist East, is more at home with High German, the language spoken by most Germans. But the Bavarian dialect differs sharply.

"The young people speak good High German. But the older people often speak thick Bavarian and I can't understand them. So I just nod," says Ballack, who joined Bayern from Bayer Leverkusen.

Ref quits after below-the-belt assault

Francisco Caamano, a PE teacher with 33 years experience as a referee, has downed his whistle and retired after kneeing Nestor Contreras of Audax Italiano in the testicles during their Chilean League match against Deportes Temuco.

The incident took place after Caamano had sent Contreras off. When the player and team captain Alejandro Carrasco demanded to know why, Caamano kneed Contreras in the genitals and he fell to the ground.

Caamano said the blow had been intended for the player's thigh and was a reflex action because the player had stepped on his feet. But his explanation was rejected by the referees' union after viewing television footage.

Sergio Toloza of the Chilean FA said: "Caamano acknowledged the gravity of his act."

Help from the inside

Help has arrived from a surprising source for the former Universitatea Craiova keeper Valentin David, who is seriously ill with a kidney complaint.

When it became clear the Romanian needed a transplant, an appeal for donors was sent out. It elicited a huge response from the local prison, where inmates are queueing up to offer their kidneys in the belief that helping a local hero will be an advantage when they come before the parole board.

Shirt tales from Stuttgart

Like so many other Bundesliga clubs following the collapse of the Kirch media empire and the subsequent 20 per cent reduction in TV rights income, VfB Stuttgart have made cuts in wages and kept new signings to a minimum this summer.

But the *Stuttgarter* management have gone much further, even decreeing that their players should curb their habit of swapping shirts with the opposition at the final whistle or throwing their jerseys to grateful fans.

From this season, each Stuttgart player will be allocated five shirts for the entire campaign and should he need a sixth, he will have to dig deep into his pocket to pay for it.

Simonet sups the good life in Seoul

If the French public still seem stunned by their national team's crushing failure at World Cup 2002, not everyone connected with *Les Bleus*, it seems, was feeling low during their Far East expedition.

According to Parisian Sunday newspaper *Le Journal du Dimanche*, on the night of France's shock opening game defeat against Senegal, federation president Claude Simonet wined and dined with distinction at the Sheraton Hotel in Seoul, eventually picking up a bill for the reasonable sum of £4,587.

Obviously, Simonet and guests – his wife, former France boss Aime Jacquet and his wife, plus Lyon president Jean-Michel Aulas – appreciate good wine. No less than £3,254 was spent on a bottle of Romanee-Conti, a red Burgundy.

Cheers.

"Notes & quotes"

"I'm psychologically at the end."

Golden Shoe winner Mario Jardel attempts an explanation of why he does not want to play again for Sporting Lisbon.

"We're different players. He demands every ball; I want to make forward runs."

New Bayern Munich signing Michael Ballack on the assumption that he was bought from Bayer Leverkusen to replace Stefan Effenberg.

Consoling words...Rudi Voller

"I saw all three of France's matches at the World Cup and still think their team was better than the one that won in 1998."

Rudi Voller tries to make ex-France coach Roger Lemerre feel a whole lot better.

"Here in Barcelona, there are players with the same qualities as him: Saviola, Luis Enrique and Geovanni. He will have to adapt to my tactics."

Barça coach Louis Van Gaal welcomes Argentina midfielder Juan Roman Riquelme to Camp Nou in his own inimitable way.

The month in pictures

● 09/08/02...Luiz Felipe Scolari, aka Big Phil, surprisingly quits as national coach of Brazil

● 12/08/02...Lyon's Sidney Govou is one of four uncapped players in Jacques Santini's first France squad

● 13/08/02...Rudi Voller warns he will replace any slackers in the German team with younger players

● 14/08/02...Edgar Davids is bannec for his part in a pre-season brawl

Paul Gardner
GLOBAL VIEW

Goalless and pointless: a baffling state of affairs

HERE'S a baffling state of affairs. New York is sliding gently into a cool balmy evening. Perfect weather for football. Here is Giants Stadium with a lovely smooth grass field, and here come 70,635 fans to fill it.

And why not – they've come to see a pretty good game, Real Madrid v Roma. To add to the occasion, part of the proceeds are going to the UN global AIDS fund – so here's UN Secretary General Kofi Annan to give an opening speech, and there's Dr Henry Kissinger lurking in the background.

A banquet of great football is on hand. Despite the absence of Raul and Francesco Totti, Real Madrid and Roma are still loaded with creative players: Zinedine Zidane, Luis Figo, Savio, Steve McManaman, Fernando Morientes, Esteban Cambiasso, Roberto Carlos, Gabriel Batistuta, Antonio Cassano, Damiano Tommasi, Vincenzo Montella, Josep Guardiola.

Yet something goes wrong. Towards the end, sections of this huge crowd are booing – and it gets much louder at the final whistle. The fans – who've paid up to £50 – are not happy. The booing is not directed at either team, any player or even the referee. It expresses general frustration. All that talent – yet the final score is an unthinkable 0-0.

It has not been a bad game – Iker Casillas in the Real goal has made three pretty good saves. The final stat sheet says that each team had 17 shots on goal. A generous total, I'd say – but anyway, none of them went in. The fans wanted those climactic moments to cheer and celebrate, to wave their flags and jump up and down, and they got nothing.

Baffling, I called it, and baffling it was. This was a game with nothing really at stake, a game in which tactics could take a back seat. The players could simply think about scoring goals. And it seems that was how they approached matters.

No sign of caution or negativity, nor was this a wimpish, gentlemanly affair – there was plenty of tackling, a total of 45 fouls, even a minor injury or two.

Alongside those 34 shots, the stats also showed that Casillas made 10 saves, and Roma's Francesco Antonioli three. Again, the totals seem generous to me, but they suggest that two-thirds of the shots were off target. And they don't record what I recall as quite a few shots that were blocked as soon as they were hit.

And so the fans booed. Now this was hardly an audience of neophyte American fans, the ones who are supposed to be so simple-minded that all they understand is scoring. This game brought out the ethnic fans in large numbers, the sophisticated fans who know their sport. They had every right to expect some wonderful goals.

Coach Fabio Capello – whose Roma had looked the better team – beamed with satisfaction. He dismissed the lack of goals as just one of those things. "It was competitive, it was not boring – and there were no injuries," he said. Real's Vicente Del Bosque expressed similar thoughts, and seemed genuinely puzzled when the absence of goals was mentioned.

'Real Madrid v Roma was a potentially superb game that never came to life... two skilful teams, intent on playing attacking football, were still able to snuff out their opponents without any great difficulty'

And that is the most baffling and worrying aspect. Two skilful teams, intent on playing attacking football, were still able to snuff out their opponents without any great difficulty. In other words, defending has become so dominant that it is virtually second nature to the players. They can do it very effectively even while they're trying to attack.

Capello and Del Bosque seemed to find this acceptable, simply a natural part of the game that it was naive to question.

Real v Roma was a potentially superb game that never came to life. It may be argued that this was a pre-season exhibition, one the players could have done without, and that their hearts were not in it. Possibly – though I doubt it.

What it desperately needed was a goal – one would surely have been followed by others. Neither the players nor the coaches could be faulted. The problem is with the sport itself and with those who refuse to allow that something needs to be done to adjust the balance between attack and defence.

"That's football," a Brit remarked to me. "We don't want basketball scores do we?" No we don't, but there's a lot of room for compromise between 0-0 and 96-96 scorelines.

Yes, it baffles the heck out of me that there is concern about a hypothetical situation in which it *might* become too easy to score, when we are confronted with a *real* situation in which it is manifestly too difficult to score.

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ASTON VILLA / HI HO SILVER LINING	TONE VILLA	1315
BIRMINGHAM / FEEL IT	TONE BIRMING	1306
BLACKBURN / WILD ROVER	TONE BLACKB	1890
BOLTON / THE WANDERER	TONE BOLTON	1891
CHARLTON / WHEN THE RED RED ROBIN...	TONE CHARLTON	1483
CHELSEA / BLUE IS THE COLOUR	TONE CHELSEA	1293
EVERTON / ALTOGETHER NOW	TONE EVERTON	1289
FULHAM / VIVA EL FULHAM	TONE FULHAM	1310
LIVERPOOL / YOU'LL NEVER WALK ALONE	TONE LIVER	1330
LEEDS / MARCHING ON TOGETHER	TONE LEEDS	1892
MAN CITY / CITY TILL I DIE	TONE MANCITY	1893
MAN UNITED / "GLORY, GLORY"	TONE MANUTD	1894
MIDDLESBOROUGH / PAPA'S GOT A BRAND NEW PIG BAG	TONE MIDDLES	1336
NEWCASTLE / FOG ON THE TYNE	TONE NEWCAS	1895
SUNDERLAND / DANCE OF THE KNIGHTS	TONE SUNDER	1302
SOUTHAMPTON / WHEN THE SAINTS GO MARCHING IN	TONE SOUTHAMP	1360
TOTTENHAM / MACNAMARA'S BAND	TONE SPURS	1326
WEST BROM / LET ME ENTERTAIN YOU	TONE WESTBR	1359
WEST HAM / I'M FOREVER BLOWING BUBBLES	TONE WESTHAM	1292

DIVISION 1

BRADFORD CITY / SEASONS IN THE SUN	TONE BRADFORD	1896
BRIGHTON & HOVE / YELLOW SUBMARINE	TONE BRIGHTON	1897
BURNLEY / ONE MAN WENT TO MOW	TONE BURNLEY	1898
COVENTRY CITY / O VERONA	TONE COVENTRY	1899
CRYSTAL PALACE / GLAD ALL OVER	TONE CRYSTAL	1311
DERBY COUNTY / READY TO GO / REPUBLICA	TONE DERBY	1341
GILLINGHAM / RIGHT HERE RIGHT NOW	TONE GILLING	1344
GRIMSBY TOWN / WE ONLY SING WHEN WE'RE FISHING	TONE GRIMSBY	1307
IPSWICH TOWN / GET THAT GOAL	TONE IPSWICH	1319
MILLWALL / ALWAYS LOOK ON THE BRIGHT SIDE OF LIFE	TONE MILLWALL	1900
NORWICH CITY / ON THE BALL CITY	TONE NORWICH	1901
NOTTINGHAM FOREST / HE'S GOT THE WHOLE WORLD	TONE NOTTF	1362
PORTSMOUTH / RIDE OF THE VALKYRIES	TONE PORTS	1343
PRESTON NORTH END / I CAN'T HELP FALLING IN LOVE	TONE PRESTON	1902
READING / ANOTHER ONE BITES THE DUST	TONE READING	1157
ROTHERHAM UNITED / IT'S A LONG WAY TO TIPPERARY	TONE ROTHER	1903
SHEFFIELD UNITED / ANNIE'S SONG	TONE SHEFFU	1904
SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY / YOU'VE GOT ME SINGING THE BLUES	TONE SHEFFWED	1905
STOKE CITY / DELILAH	TONE STOKE	1304
WALSALL / DAYDREAM BELIEVER	TONE WALSALL	1303
WATFORD / Z-CARS	TONE WATFORD	1365
WIMBLEDON / THE WOMBLES	TONE WIMB	1906
WOLVES / THANK YOU VERY MUCH	TONE WOLVES	1907

OTHER GREAT FOOTY TONES

THE GREAT ESCAPE THEME	TONE GREAT	1844
FAT LES / VINDALOO	TONE VINDA	1230
MATCH OF THE DAY	TONE MOTD	1393
BRITISH NATIONAL ANTHEM	TONE ENGLAND	1814
BADDIEL & SKINNER / THREE LIONS	TONE THREELIONS	1353
DJ OTZI / HEY BABY	TONE HEYBABY	1551
AGADOO	TONE AGADOO	1287
AIN'T NO STOPPING US NOW	TONE AINTNOSTOP	1288
A-TEAM	TONE ATEAM	1290
THINGS CAN ONLY GET BETTER	TONE BETTER	1291

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	LOGO MRCROW	2478
SCORED YET?	LOGO SCORED	2613
	LOGO NOFEAR	2027
	LOGO FOOTIE	2486
	LOGO ALIENS	2384
ENGLAND	LOGO ENGLAND2	2620
	LOGO MONKEY	2431
	LOGO ZANY	2483
I am horny!	LOGO IAMHORNY	2454
	LOGO BAT2	2022
YOUNG, HORNY & SINGLE	LOGO HORNY	2028
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BOLTON	WESTBROM
CHARLTON	COVENTRY
CHELSEA	DERBY
EVERTON	IPSWICH
FULHAM	LEICESTER
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PRANK BITCH	Hi, you don't know me but I know your boyfriend. We met a few weeks ago...
PRANK MODEL	Shock them when the model agency gets intouch about their looks...
PRANK POLICE	Stop speeding or PC Plod & his video camera may be in touch...
PRANK STRIP	Remind your mill what they got up to the other night...
PRANK SACKED	Someone not pulling their weight at work? Tell them they've got the push.
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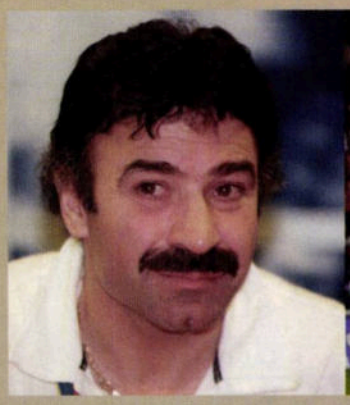
The month in pictures



● 14/08/02...Agostinho Oliveira is appointed as caretaker coach of Portugal

● 14/08/02...Celtic beat Basle of Switzerland 3-1 in Glasgow in the first leg of their Champions League qualifying round

● 14/08/02...Zalaegerszeg shock Man United, winning 1-0 in the Champions League qualifying round first leg

● 15/08/02...Angelo Di Livio says he will stay with Fiorentina in Serie C2

World Soccer
MEDIAWORLD

The other Bosman calls it a day

JUST on the eve of the new season Dutch football has lost one of its finest forwards. Johnny Bosman has quit the game at 37...some 19 years after his senior debut for Ajax.

He recalls: "It was my father's birthday. Marco Van Basten couldn't play and Aad De Mos called me up to play against Roda. I even scored – it was a dream debut.

"Later, Johan Cruyff became coach at Ajax and, under him, I learned all about what it means to be a professional. He taught all us kids to think through every aspect of the game. He worked us hard in training and was always very critical, rarely happy with what we did.

"It was very frustrating, really. In all the time we worked together I can only ever remember him paying me two compliments."

– from Foot Magazine

Story of a betrayal

So, Ronaldo wants to join Real Madrid. Or, perhaps, he just wants more money out of Massimo Moratti and Inter. It seems a weird about-turn when only a few days before he had joined with his friends Vieri and Recoba in volunteering to take a pay cut as a goodwill gesture to the Inter president in these straitened times.

Now Ronaldo has declared war on Inter while remaining hidden away in his bolt-hole in Brazil. A superstar without the courage of his convictions, it seems. The dirty work out in the open has been delegated to one of his agents, Alexandre Martins.

The strategy appears clear: either more money or a transfer. If Ronaldo really wants to go to Spain, the solution is simple. Let him turn up in Milan with a cheque for 100million euros. The talks need take hardly any time and no one would stand in his way. Certainly not Moratti, who, after having put up with all the idiosyncracies of the Brazilian, must be sick and tired of him. Nor Inter's fans, either, many of whom were not amused that Ronaldo, in his hour of World Cup glory, did not have even one kind word for their patience and encouragement.

Hidden away...Ronaldo

Moratti has reacted impassively to this smack in the face but he certainly has no intention of turning the other cheek. He does not appreciate such betrayals.

Ronaldo has spent two seasons on the sidelines because of injury. Now he risks spending another out of action as punishment.

– Luca Calamai, Gazzetta dello Sport

Dream come true

I just couldn't believe it. I heard I had been called up [for France against Tunisia] from my agent and I didn't believe him because he enjoys teasing me. Then Djibril [Cisse] came in shouting it out at the top of his voice, so I knew it was true.

Honestly, I never expected it. I don't have a fax machine so I didn't get the letter straight away. It's like in a dream. Everything has happened so fast. It barely seems like yesterday that I was being picked for the youth team for the first time, and now I'm knocking on the senior national team's front door.

When I got my mother on the phone, she was crying with happiness. It's amazing to think that I'm going to be in the same group of players as Zinedine Zidane.

Before that, however, Auxerre have to play Boavista in the Champions League qualifying round. I must think only about that. First things first.

– Philippe Mexes in L'Equipe

Convenient excuse

Still struggling to navigate the double entendres littering the English language, Chelsea's Italian manager Claudio Ranieri recently gave his club's financial game away in delightfully comic style. When forced by his new chief executive, the number-crunching hard man Trevor Birch, to pull out of an apparently done deal to buy two foreign players from Real Madrid, the humiliated Ranieri complained: "Chelsea can't afford to spend a penny at the moment."

– Sonia Purnell, Independent on Sunday

Blowing hot and cold in Spain

No one could criticise ex-Real Madrid player Michel for going over the top in his excitement on TVE when Madrid won the Champions League. But he should remember he is paid, indirectly, by all Spaniards when he is delivering his opinions. That means he should generate as much enthusiasm about the achievements of other Spanish teams: something he has not managed so far in his broadcasting career. Also, he has a tendency to be hypercritical about Barcelona, especially in his comments about the tactical changes introduced by Louis Van Gaal.

– Xavier Ensenyat, Don Balon

Compiled by Keir Radnedge

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SPAIN

The Ronaldo and Rivaldo show

Keir Radnedge on the two Brazilians who have dominated a recession-hit summer transfer market

Moment of glory...Rivaldo and Ronaldo take possession of the World Cup – ahead of a summer of transfer wrangling

WHEN Ronaldo and Rivaldo threw their arms around each other in triumph and then knelt together with their Brazil World Cup team-mates in an ostentatious prayer of thanks, fans in Italy and Spain shared in their joy.

The reflected glory shone all the way from Yokohama to the football-mad capitals of Lombardy and Catalonia. Football's ultimate victory was shared by the fans of Internazionale and Barcelona.

But while Ronaldo and Rivaldo gloried only in World Cup victory with Brazil, their club bosses were already preparing for the gathering storm and two of the most resoundingly controversial transfer wrangles for years.

Hidden away beyond the clouds of angst and upset is the certainty that both club presidents, Inter's Massimo Moratti and Barcelona's Joan Gaspart, had a shrewd idea of what was coming their way. The only people kept in ignorance until the very last moments were the fans of both clubs – and also, of course, the supporters of Milan and Real Madrid.

Cynicism has ruled all round. No one is innocent, though some are more obviously guilty than others.

Gaspart knew, the day he announced the impending return of Louis Van Gaal as head coach, that Rivaldo's days were numbered. The personal history between Van Gaal and Rivaldo was the guarantee. But Gaspart's advisers balanced a short-term storm with the knowledge that Rivaldo is 30, Barcelona have had his best years, and a club whose trading account is slipping into the red could happily do without paying one man some £4million a year.

Rivaldo, for his part, has been preparing his Barcelona departure for several years. His children's school had been on alert for some time that their most famous parent would be taking his offspring elsewhere.

Sooner or later the parting was inevitable. It was just a case of pressing the start button – which Rivaldo did by remote control from back home in Mogi Mirim, Brazil.

Similarly, as the infuriated Italian

Which way now?...Ronaldo in training

media has pointed out, Ronaldo sat back in Brazil and left his agents – Alexandre Martins in particular – to do the dirty work. That, more than anything, stoked the fury of Inter's fans and media. It was bad enough that Ronaldo wanted to quit the club, which had stood by him through all the bad times; more despicable still that he hid behind his website and let his agents do the talking, the griping, the whingeing.

Yet how conveniently Inter's directors, fans and media friends have forgotten the plain truth that they acquired Ronaldo in the very same manner back in 1997 when the Brazilian walked out on Barcelona in the middle of his contract.

Barça received £19.5million and splashed £15m of it on Rivaldo as Ronaldo's replacement. Rivaldo, barring the odd injury, has played consistently over the past five years – which is more than can be said for injury-scarred Ronaldo. So Barcelona cashed in twice over: they took Ronaldo's money, made a £4.5m profit and gained a Brazilian of almost equal talent who helped them win a great deal more than Inter have won after stealing Ronaldo.

The transfer dramas surrounding Rivaldo and Ronaldo have been presented by the clubs as sudden eruptions in a tranquil landscape. In fact, the fire and brimstone had been bubbling just beneath the surface since May – May 13, to be exact – when Gaspart confirmed to a packed press conference that Van Gaal was coming back to Camp Nou.

At just about the same time, in Italy, Moratti was being privately advised by Ronaldo's agents, Martins and Reinaldo Pitta, that there was no guarantee the player would want to return to Inter after the World Cup. The conversation went virtually unnoticed at the time; it was considered merely a sighting shot in the event of Ronaldo enjoying a value-enhancing World Cup. As indeed he did, of course.

Two days after the World Cup Final, Inter, to no one's surprise, let it be known that they were preparing a revised contract which, with sponsors' help, would have taken Ronaldo's annual pay from £4m to a maximum £7m if they won both the Champions League and Serie A. The fact that Inter already felt under pressure should have been seen as a significant straw in the wind.

Back in Brazil, Ronaldo admitted that World Cup-winning team-mate – and old friend – Roberto Carlos had advised him he would be welcome in Madrid, should he want a move. By way of response, some 46 per cent of voters in an Italian internet poll described him as "ungrateful", and a surprisingly high 31 per cent approved a possible sale.

War of words

The fuss was already lively enough to persuade Moratti to join in, stating: "Ronaldo is worth 100million euros [£65m] – but that's academic because I'm not selling."

Transfer focus then switched back to Barcelona with confirmation of the signing of Juan Roman Riquelme from Boca Juniors. The deal was even more significant than it appeared at the time since, within a week, it began to dawn on European football that the transfer market was imploding.

Two weeks after the World Cup Final, less than a fortnight after Inter had hinted at a fat new contract for Ronaldo, so the player, still in Brazil, joined forces with Christian Vieri and Alvaro Recoba to volunteer a pay cut "as a gesture of good faith towards president Moratti, Inter and our supporters". With hindsight the gesture, at least on Ronaldo's behalf, appears to have been a cynically empty one.

While Rivaldo and Ronaldo enjoyed their club-approved holidays in their homeland, so their team-mates were knuckling back down to pre-season training and the transfer roundabout slowed to a virtual stop.

Then, a new twist. Lazio, keen to send disappointing and disappointed Spain playmaker Gaizka Mendieta back to Spain, suggested to Barcelona a simple exchange for Rivaldo – a long-time target back in the days when the Cragnotti family were throwing money at just about every player that moved. Lazio were being cheeky. The surprise was that Barcelona directors close to Gaspart clearly took the proposal seriously.

Suddenly, the clouds parted. The arrival of Van Gaal plus the capture of a new hero in Riquelme, revelations of tax problems over Rivaldo's promotional earnings plus the serious response to Lazio's 'joke' all added up to one thing: Rivaldo, with one year remaining on his contract, had been given carte blanche to get out of Barcelona, fee-free, just as fast as his agents could arrange it.

'Rivaldo, with one year left on his contract, had been given carte blanche to depart Barça just as fast as his agents could arrange it'

Milan and Real Madrid were the only serious contenders to sign him – both offered the financial clout to approach Rivaldo's pay demands and the certainty of Champions League football. Milan offered the financial guarantees provided by Silvio Berlusconi's ownership; Madrid would have allowed him to stay in Spain, which he would have preferred from a lifestyle point of view.

Rivaldo had, at one time, expressed an interest in playing in England. But Manchester United were no longer interested in him because of his age and Newcastle took one look at his pay demands and politely declined the chance to bid. Tottenham also enquired, but they were not in the Champions League so that was that.

Madrid, frankly, dithered. The prospect of signing Rivaldo from their old enemies on a free transfer was attractive because of the mischief it would cause. But president Florentino Perez was engaged in trying to cut the wage bill, not increase it; sports director Jorge Valdano thought Rivaldo just too old to provide full value for the investment; and coach Vicente Del Bosque questioned whether Rivaldo would not just clutter the tactical channels preferred by Raul and Zinedine Zidane.

On July 21, Milan took the initiative. Executive vice-president Adriano Galliani opened negotiations with Rivaldo's agency company, CSR. Rivaldo wanted £4m-a-year for a three-year contract; Milan offered £2m-a-year for a two-year deal.

In a TV link-up between Spain and Brazil, Rivaldo told Roberto Carlos: "Hey, tell Valdano to give me a call." That kept the Madrid media pot boiling but, in fact, Milan had the deal done and dusted once their initial offer had been upped to £3m-a-year for three years plus a further £650,000-a-year from sponsor Mizuno. Financially, that puts him on a par with Maldini, Rui Costa, Shevchenko and Inzaghi – though much more will be expected of him.

It was all quiet on the Ronaldo front, expectations reduced to virtually nothing after Perez told Madrid's board: "We are not in a spending mood. If we do not sell players, we cannot buy." The European champions' focus was thus turned towards their own pre-season tournament at the start of August, involving Liverpool, Milan (without non-match-fit Rivaldo) and Bayern Munich.

Then a Spanish radio report said Madrid had agreed the details of a contract for Ronaldo with the player's agents. The news provoked convulsions in Brazil, Spain and Italy. It also severely embarrassed Madrid, who have a "non-aggression" pact with Inter, their G-14 colleagues.

Valdano had to call a hasty press conference. Yes, he had spoken to Martins; yes, they had discussed

Ronaldo; no, Madrid had not agreed terms with the player because, no, they had not made Inter an offer.

Behind the scenes it appeared Martins had already spoken to Inter about whether they would consider offers; that Perez had already warned his board that the matter was under way; and that Madrid had already secured insurance cover against the prospect of signing Ronaldo only for the player to succumb, once more, to injuries. In Italy, Moratti fumed at having his paternalistic treatment of Ronaldo thrown back in his face.

The endgame begins

Inter's Argentinian coach, Hector Cuper, kept a low profile. It was no secret that he and Ronaldo did not have the friendliest of working relationships. Ronaldo thought Cuper had held him back too much and had worried that this might cost him selection for the World Cup. Those fears had proved unfounded, of course. Indeed, it was Cuper's caution over Ronaldo's reintroduction that had provided the player with the chance to regain his health and re-establish his reputation at the World Cup.

The next 10 days saw a whirlwind of confusing activity. Inter said they had no intention of selling; Perez said he would like to sign Ronaldo but only if Inter said he was available; Moratti insisted Ronaldo would be expected to see out his contract, which expired in 2006, and if that was a problem then the player should tell Moratti to his face; Cuper said he wanted Ronaldo to stay; Gaspart said he would pay Inter whatever Madrid offered plus one euro; Ronaldo said on his website he was no longer happy in Italy and wanted to return to Spain, to Madrid, where there were great players and a lifestyle that suited him better.

Ronaldo returned to Milan from Brazil only to find, to his surprise, that Moratti had left for holiday the day before. Inter's president was not changing his plans just to suit the whim of a player. Snub No 2 was Inter's confirmation of a contract extension for Cuper, until 2005.

The war of words continued. One day Ronaldo and his agents were telling the internet he wanted to quit Inter to "put the smile back into his football and his life"; the next day they were insisting he had every desire to fulfil his contract with Inter. One more day he was refusing to be photographed in an Inter shirt for the annual Panini sticker album.

Rivaldo, almost unnoticed amid the uproar, flew into Milan, passed all the medical checks and started getting to know his new team-mates.

Time for Ronaldo was running out. The August 31 transfer window was sliding closer. Inter's officials and players carried on with the day-to-day business; after all, they had seen little enough of Ronaldo over the past three years. Madrid sat back; they would not initiate transfer talks unbidden.

The ball was in Ronaldo's court. If he wanted the move badly enough then he and his agents had to break the deadlock. It was just a matter of time...and timing.

RONALDO V RIVALDO – since 1997

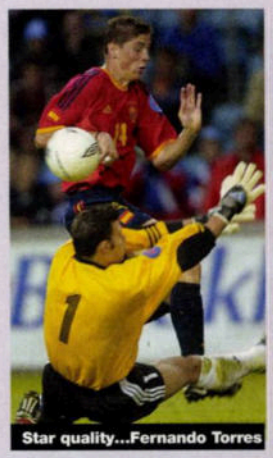
LEAGUE APPEARANCES/GOALS

Season	Ronaldo/Inter	Rivaldo/Barcelona
1997-98	32/25	34/19
1998-99	19/14	37/24
1999-00	7/3	31/12
2000-01	0/0	35/23
2001-02	10/7	20/8
CLUB TROPHIES		
1997-98	UEFA Cup	Spanish Lge & Cup
1998-99	–	Spanish Lge

Players to watch

Fernando Torres, ATLETICO MADRID

The great new hope of newly promoted Atletico and the star of Spain's European Under-19 triumph this summer.


Star quality...Fernando Torres

Javier Portillo, REAL MADRID

If the European champions continue with their policy of promoting homegrown talent to play alongside imported internationals, then this young striker should get his chance.

Iniesta, BARCELONA

Clever, ball-playing midfielder and another star of Spain's Under-19 victory. Will be pushing Xavi for a place in the Barça first team.

Jose Antonio Reyes, SEVILLA

Either as a pure striker or in an advanced midfield position, Reyes is a class act, but prospective buyers – Real Madrid, Barcelona, Arsenal, Inter – have baulked at the £25million price tag.

Melli, BETIS

Dynamic defensive midfielder with all the attributes to go to the very top. Strong, a solid tackler, good in the air and an excellent passer.

The summer's key moves

Can he handle it?...Riquelme

Juan Roman Riquelme

Boca Juniors to Barcelona. One of the longest drawn-out transfers of recent times. How will Riquelme cope with the increased pace and pressure of the Spanish game?

Jorge Andrade

FC Porto to Deportivo. The brightest defensive prospect in the Portuguese game moves across the border for a cool £8million.

Emerson

Deportivo to Atletico. Former Middlesbrough midfielder joins newly promoted Atletico for £5m.

Javi Moreno

Milan to Atletico. Back in Spain after a disappointing year in Italy and joined by on-loan former Milan team-mates Jose Mari and Demetrio Albertini.

Roberto Acuna

Zaragoza to Deportivo. Paraguayan midfielder known as El Toro (the bull) stays in the Spanish top flight following Zaragoza's relegation. Deportivo's second biggest signing at £7million.

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lotto
ITALIAN SPORT DESIGN

Liga gentlemen

Keir Radnedge on the challengers to Valencia's crown

Alaves

Ever since they reached the UEFA Cup Final in 2001, the Basque club from Vitoria have been selling off the family silver. Latest departures among the 2001 heroes included Rob Witschge and Martin Herrera. The one player they could not afford to lose, Argentinian Fabio Coloccini, also left. His place in central defence has gone to ex-Barcelona stalwart Abelardo but signs are ominous. Alaves will do well to repeat last season's seventh-place finish.

Athletic Bilbao

The Basque club have maintained their top division place despite sticking rigidly to a policy of Basques only. That doesn't apply to coaches, which means German Jupp Heynckes is still in demanding control. Most of the new faces are youth squad graduates – with the exception of central defender Aitor Karanka from Real Madrid, a useful signing. The top summer capture was, however, their own man already. Ismael Urzaiz quit Bilbao when his contract ended in June, expecting a rush of lucrative offers. Instead, the market imploded and Urzaiz found that even international strikers are no longer guaranteed a move. Bilbao have spared his blushes by taking him back. Now Urzaiz has a point to prove.

Atletico Madrid

The rest of Spain is as eager as Atletico fans to see super-starlet Fernando Torres in the top division. Torres was the man-of-the-tournament inspiration of Spain's recent European youth triumph and has all it takes to go right to the top. Even at 19, his contract stipulates that it would take an offer of at least £40million to buy him – but Atletico have no intention of selling. It took them two years to get back into La Liga, and a string of sensible summer purchases suggest they will stay there and even push for a European qualifying spot. New men are all in key positions – Fabio Coloccini and Sergi in defence, Italian veteran Demetrio Albertini in midfield and Spaniards Jose Mari and Javi Moreno in attack. All except Sergi have been tied up somewhere down the line with Milan, and Coloccini, Jose Mari and Albertini are only on loan for the season.

Barcelona

The second coming of Louis Van Gaal is very different to the first. When Van Gaal arrived originally he brought with him such a large entourage of Dutch players that the club were nicknamed Barça-Ajax. He was also rated – not least in his own mind – as virtually infallible. Now, with even Barcelona

Alaves recruit...Abelardo

starting to count the pennies, Van Gaal cannot afford to buy up half the Dutch national team and is being forced to work with players of a very different style. Finest is new Argentinian arrival Juan Roman Riquelme, surprisingly overlooked for the World Cup by Marcelo Bielsa. Van Gaal is also moving Patrick Kluivert back up front, and shocked 'Conejo' Saviola with a switch from the centre of attack to the wings – in the manner of Gary Lineker under Johan Cruyff 14 years ago. Barcelona have gone two years without a trophy. Whether they can end that run is questionable but they will be strong contenders.

Betis

Victor Fernandez has a high-profile, disciplined way of getting things done, and not every squad enjoys having him as boss. Betis surprised themselves with last season's sixth-place finish on their return to La Liga but nothing about their transfer activity suggests they will stay up there, never mind improve their status.

Celta Vigo

Celta, under Victor Fernandez, gave most opponents a hard time last term with their physical endeavour and accurate passing. Recalling Ivan Kaviedes from loan to FC Porto and taking Benni McCarthy on loan from the Portuguese giants should give them extra edge in attack. Fernandez is a hard act to follow after he led Celta into the UEFA Cup four seasons running but successor Miguel Angel Lotina earned a reputation with Numancia and Osasuna for making the best of meagre resources. Thus Celta should at least prove among the most awkward of opponents if not potential trophy winners.

Deportivo La Coruna

Deportivo had the League at their mercy last season and, at times, played some of Europe's best football. Unfortunately, the buzz went out of their play – both at home and abroad – after the historic Cup Final win over centenary-celebrating Real Madrid in the Bernabeu. The days have long gone when Depor signed a wagon-load of Brazilians each summer. But, even in these tight times, they appear to have spent wisely in signing central defender Jorge Andrade for the summer's top fee – a mere £8million. At least they have some silverware secured, having won their own Teresa Herrera trophy, oldest of Spain's pre-season tournaments.

Espanyol

Espanyol must have made a significant profit, in talent at least, from the transfer market. Barcelona's second club are always looking to cut costs but goalkeeper Alex Manninger, French midfielder Alain Boghossian and Yugoslav striker Savo Milosevic represent sound business all round.

Malaga

Joaquin Peiro, one-time hero of Atletico Madrid, Torino and Inter, did well in steering Malaga to mid-table security last term and was rewarded with a fun run in the InterToto Cup. His prospects of maintaining the domestic status quo are clouded, however, by the club's financial check. The arrival of six new players is not the optimistic signal it might appear since all have been promoted from the nursery club, Malaga B.

Mallorca

Mallorca's slide to just above the relegation zone represented a steep decline after the heady years of European and domestic challenge under Hector Cuper. Argentinian striker Leo Biagini has been recalled from loan at Portsmouth but Mallorca's run of bad luck struck again when new centre-back Federico Lussenhoff (ex-Tenerife) broke a leg in pre-season.

Osasuna

Osasuna have gone Mexican in an attempt to overturn the presumption of a long, hard fight against the drop. Javier Aguirre, fresh from an ultimately unsatisfactory World Cup, is the coach with a difficult task. He has brought with him World Cup centre-back Manuel Vidrio and striker Carlos Ochoa – whom he overlooked for Korea/Japan. But Spanish League standards are a world apart from Mexico's, and the trio will need to learn very quickly or go down with the club – maybe even before it.

Racing Santander

The club that gave the Spanish game the likes of Paco Gento and Carlos Santillana are back after a year in the Second Division. They have turned to Israeli football to strengthen the backbone of the team with Ilan Bachar arriving in defence from Hapoel Tel Aviv plus Yossi Benayoun from Maccabi Haifa. Benayoun established a reputation in Israel for scoring plenty of important goals from midfield, and Racing will need as many as he can get.

Rayo Vallecano

Fernando Vazquez is the coach assigned to ensure that Rayo, Madrid's third club once more now that Atletico are back in the top flight, do not finally succumb to relegation. But even he would hardly claim his squad has been strengthened by a mixture of arrivals from other local minnows plus some loan returnees. A hard winter beckons.

Real Madrid

Madrid fans will expect their highly paid, some would say over-paid, favourites to regain the League title – Ronaldo or no Ronaldo. But coach Vicente Del Bosque has a number of minor positional dilemmas to resolve. First, who plays in goal – Cesar or Iker Casillas – and how does he keep the other one happy? Secondly, with the departures of Karanka and Ivan Campo, how can he secure a notoriously flimsy back line? Thirdly, will he have to replace the unsettled Claude Makelele, crucial last season as midfield anchor? Fourth, will Javier Portillo – record-breaking youth team marksman – fulfil all that attacking potential in his first full season with the seniors? If Madrid do not do the business, then it will probably be down to lack of investment in the engine room – responsibility for which is not down to Del Bosque.

Real Sociedad

Sergio Boris Gonzalez, from Oviedo, is Real's first non-Basque Spaniard in years as the San Sebastian club seek to erase memories of the relegation battle waged under John Toshack. Russian Valeri Karpin is also back from Celta to boss midfield. It will be fascinating to see how former Nantes boss Raynald Denouieux adjusts. His past and present clubs have a lot in common in terms of self-sufficient approach and the combination could turn out well – as long as early results are reasonable and buy the Frenchman a little time.

Recreativo

Lucas Alcaraz brought Spain's oldest club back up into the top flight yet again but it will be a major surprise if the Huelva side are not playing host to Second Division football again in a year's time. They have raided the bargain basement for more than a dozen new players, suggesting panic long before the season even kicked off.

Sevilla

To hold your own in La Liga demands not only skill and inspiration, but also physical determination. Intriguingly, Sevilla will be looking for those latter qualities from ex-Spurs and Everton midfielder Vinny Samways. With Las Palmas he proved a voracious and ferocious collector of cards. At least the fans won't be able to complain about lack of commitment.

Raw deal...Rafa Benitez

Valencia

Rafa Benitez has had a harder time of it than a championship-winning coach deserves. He was criticised by fans and media – mainly because he wasn't Hector Cuper – on his appointment. Then credit for the League title win was heaped more on the players than him. It was hardly his fault that Depor, Madrid and Barcelona gave up silly points along the way. Finally, Benitez was ignored when he asked his board for, at least, a central defender to shore up his squad for the double assault on League and Champions League. Valencia's directors could have a lot to answer for.

Valladolid

Valladolid hope to spark their attack into life with the arrival of 19-year-old Bolivian Jose Alfredo Castillo on a one-year, £100,000 loan deal from Oriente Petrolero. It may take more than his raging self-confidence, however, to help Valladolid complete a decade back in the top flight.

Villarreal

Former Barcelona midfielder Victor Munoz has worked hard to establish Villarreal in the top flight, and they even had a bonus of a long InterToto run. Villarreal were expected to finish higher in the League last term and the same applies again, particularly now Brazilian World Cup-winner Belletti has arrived to strengthen the defence.

THE NEW SEASON IN EUROPE

SPAIN SQUADS

ALAVES

GOALKEEPERS
Richard DUTRUEL (Fra)
JUAN PABLO

DEFENDERS
ABELARDO Fernandez
Vlatko DJOLONGA (Cro)
Delfi GELI
Antonio KARMONA
Carlos LLORENS
Juan Cruz OTCHOA
Oscar TELLEZ

MIDFIELDERS
Martin ASTUDILLO (Arg)
Hermes Aldo DESIO
EDU ALONSO
Luis HELGUERA
IBON BEGONA
JORDI Cruyff (Hol)
MARIO Alberto
PABLO Gomez
Jesus Angel TURIEL

FORWARDS
IVAN ALONSO (Uru)
MAGNO Mocelin (Bra)
Bogdan MARA (Rom)
RUBEN NAVARRO

COACH
Jose Manuel Esnal, MANE

OUT: Witschge (Ajax); Herrera (Fulham); Vucko (Salamanca); Eggen

ATHLETIC BILBAO

GOALKEEPERS
Daniel ARANZUBIA
Inaki LAFUENTE

DEFENDERS
AITOR OCIO Carrion
CESAR Fernandez
Asier DEL HORNO
FELIPE Gurendez
Aitor KARANKA
Jesus Maria LACRUZ
Inigo LARRAINZAR
Aitor LARRAZABAL
LUIS PRIETO Zilbidegoitia
Ander MURILLO
OSKAR VALES Varela

MIDFIELDERS
Ander ALANA
Bittor ALKIZA
CARLOS GARCIA Garcia
Julen GUERRERO
JAVI GONZALEZ
Pablo ORBAIZ
TIKO
Josu URRUTIA
Francisco YESTE

FORWARDS
Aritz ADURIZ
Joseba ARRIAGA
Joseba ETXEBERRIA
Santiago EZQUERRO
Carlos GURPEGI
David KARANKA
Ismael URZAIZ

COACH
Jupp HEYNCKES (Ger)

OUT: Roberto Rios

ATLETICO MADRID

GOALKEEPERS
German BURGOS (Arg)
SERGIO Sanchez Sanchez

DEFENDERS
Ivan AMAYA Carazo
ARMANDO Alvarez Alvarez
Luis CARRERAS Ferrer
Fabrizio COLOCCINI (Arg)
Jose Antonio GARCIA CALVO
Mirsad HIBIC (Bos)
JUAN Andres GOMEZ
Juan Manuel ORTIZ Palazon
Jorge OTERO Bouzas
Javier PINOLA
Santiago Denia Sanchez, SANTI
SERGI Barjuan Esclusa

MIDFIELDERS
Carlos AGUILERA Martin
Demetrio ALBERTINI (Ita)
Gonzalo COLSA Albendea
Daniel da Cruz Carvalho, DANI (Por)
EMERSON Moises Costa (Bra)
Jose Maria MOVILLA Cubero
Domingo NAGORE Arbizu
Veljko PAUNOVIC (Yug)
Jovan STANKOVIC (Yug)

FORWARDS
Fernando Edgardo CORREA Ayala
FERNANDO Jose TORRES Sanz
Javier Moreno Varela, JAVI MORENO
Romero Poyon Jose Maria, JOSE MARI
JUAN CARLOS Gomez Diaz
LUIS Javier GARCIA Sanz

COACH
Luis ARAGONES Suarez

OUT: Diego Alonso (Valencia); Jesus (Deportivo); Antonio Lopez (Osasuna); Munteanu (Albacete); Luque (Espanyol); Juninho (Middlesbrough); Njegus (Sevilla); Lardin

BARCELONA

GOALKEEPERS
Roberto BONANO (Arg)
Robert ENKE (Ger)

DEFENDERS
Patrik ANDERSSON (Swe)
Philippe CHRISTANVAL (Fra)
Frank DE BOER (Hol)
Carles PUYOL
Michael REIZIGER (Hol)

MIDFIELDERS
Philip COCU (Hol)
Gabriel Garcia de la Torre, GABRI
GERARD Lopez
Andres INIESTA
LUIS ENRIQUE
LUIS GARCIA
Gaizka MENDIETA
Thiago MOTTA (Bra)
Juan Roman RIQUELME (Arg)
Fabio ROCHEMBACK (Bra)
Xavier Hernandez Creus, XAVI

FORWARDS
Daniel Garcia Lara, DANI
GEOVANNI Deiberson Mauricio (Bra)
Patrick KLUIVERT (Hol)
Marc OVERMARS (Hol)
Javier SAVIOLA (Arg)

COACH
Louis VAN GAAL (Hol)

OUT: Sergi (Atletico), Reina (Villarreal); Abelardo, Dutruel (both Alaves); Alfonso (Betis); Coco (Inter); Arteta (Rangers); Rivaldo (Milan)

BETIS

GOALKEEPERS
Antonio DOBLAS
Ronny GASPERCIC (Blg)
Tony PRATS

DEFENDERS
David BELENGUER
Iulian FILIPESCU (Rom)
JUANITO Gutierrez
LUIS FERNANDEZ
MINGO
Washington TAIS (Uru)
Fernando VARELA

MIDFIELDERS
Arturo Garcia Munoz, ARZU
BENJAMIN Zarandona
Jose Antonio CALADO (Por)
Juan Jose CANAS
Jesus Capitan Prada, CAPI
CESAR de Loma
DENILSON de Oliveira (Bra)
Johannes GUDJONSSON (Ice)
Antonion Alvarez, ITO
JOAQUIN Sanchez
MARCOS ASSUNCAO (Bra)
MELLI

FORWARDS
ALFONSO Perez
Gaston CASAS (Arg)
Daniel Martin Alexandre, DANI
JOAO Henrique TOMAS (Por)

COACH
Victor FERNANDEZ

OUT: Merino (Recreativo); Valerio (Tenerife); Amato

CELTA VIGO

GOALKEEPERS
Pablo CAVALLERO (Arg)
Jose Manuel PINTO (Por)

DEFENDERS
Magnolo Eduardo BERIZZO (Arg)
Fernando Gabriel CACERES (Arg)
Pablo COIRA
JUANFRAN
Sebastien Ariel MENDEZ (Arg)
SERGIO Fernandez
Juan VELASCO
YAGO Alonso

MIDFIELDERS
DORIVA Guidoni Junior (Bra)
EDU (Bra)
Everton GIOVANELLA (Bra)
Pablo GUSTAVO LOPEZ (Arg)
JACOBO CAMPOS
Alejandro Castro Fernandez, JANDRO
JESULI
Peter LUCCIN (Fra)
Alexander MOSTOVOI (Rus)
Rogerio Nunes VAGNER (Bra)
YERAY Orteaga

FORWARDS
Henrique de Silva, CATANHA
Ivan KAVIEDES (Ecu)
Benni McCARTHY (SAf)
Jose Maria MENA

COACH
Miguel Angel LOTINA

OUT: Noguerol (Salamanca); Contreras (Sporting Lisbon); Maurice (Bastia); Karpin (Real Sociedad)

DEPORTIVO LA CORUNA

GOALKEEPERS
DANI MALLO
JUANMI
Jose Francisco MOLINA

DEFENDERS
Jose Manuel AIRA
Joan CAPDEVILA
CESAR Martin
Goran DJOROVIC (Yug)
DONATO (Bra/Spa)
JORGE ANDRADE (Por)
MANEL
MANUEL PABLO Garcia
Noureddine NAYBET (Mor)
Enrique Fernandez ROMERO
Lionel Sebastian SCALONI (Arg)

MIDFIELDERS
Roberto ACUNA (Par)
Jose Emilio AMAVISCA
DJALMINHA (Bra)
Aldo Pedro DUSCHER (Arg)
FERNANDO Sanchez
FRAN
JAIME Sanchez
JOSE MANUEL
MAURO de SILVA Gomes (Bra)
SERGIO
Juan Carlos VALERON
VICTOR Sanchez

FORWARDS
CHANGUI
DIEGO TRISTAN
IVAN PEREZ
Roy MAKAAY (Hol)
Walter PANDIANI (Uru)
TURU FLORES (Arg)

COACH
Javier IRURETA

OUT: Emerson (Atletico); Helder (Benfica); Nuno (FC Porto); David Pirri, Jesus (Zaragoza)

ESPANYOL

GOALKEEPERS
Alfredo ARGENSO
IRAIZOZ
Alex MANNINGER (Aut)

DEFENDERS
Marc BERTRAN
David CATALA
DAVID GARCIA De la Cruz
Francisco Jose Figueroa, FRAN
Alberto LOPO
Mauro Esteban NAVAS (Arg)
Antonio SOLDEVILLA
XAVI ROCA

MIDFIELDERS
ALEX FERNANDEZ Sanchez
ARTEAGA
Alain BOGHOSSIAN (Fra)
FREDSON (Bra)
LUQUE
Angel MORALES
ROGER Garcia
Antonio VELAMAZAN

FORWARDS
MANEL
Maximiliano Rodriguez, MAXI (Arg)
Savo MILOSEVIC (Yug)
Martin Andres POSSE (Arg)
Raul TAMUDO

COACH
Juande RAMOS

OUT: De Lucas (Chelsea); Munteanu (Atletico); Palencia (Cruz Azul); Pacheco; Paulo Sousa

MALAGA

GOALKEEPERS
Francesc ARNAU
Pedro CONTRERAS
RAFA

DEFENDERS
Francisco BRAVO
FERNANDO SANZ
Raul IZNATA
LITOS (Por)
Roberto ROJAS (Chl)
Miguel Angel ROTETA
Vicente VALCARCE

MIDFIELDERS
Sergio Barbosa DUDA (Por)
EDGAR Carvelho (Por)
GERARDO
Ivan LEKO (Cro)
MANU
MIGUEL ANGEL
Kiki MUSAMPA (Hol)
Clever Marcelo ROMERO (Uru)
Francisco Manuel RUANO
SANDRO

FORWARDS
Manuel CANABAL
DARIO SILVA (Uru)
Julio Cesar DELY VALDES (Pan)

COACH
Joaquin PEIRO

OUT: Pato (Cordoba); Dorado (Livingston); Arriki (Hearts of Oak)

MALLORCA

GOALKEEPERS
Albert CIFUENTES
LEO FRANCO (Arg)

DEFENDERS
Cristian DIAZ (Arg)
Federico LUSSENHOFF
MIQUEL SOLER Sarasols
Miguel Angel NADAL
Fernando NINO
Javier OLAIZOLA
POLI
VICENTE Fernandez

MIDFIELDERS
Alejandro CAMPANO
Ariel Miguel IBAGAZA (Arg)
Harold LOZANO (Col)
MARCOS Martin
Alvaro NOVO
Francisco 'PACO' SOLER
Albert RIERA
Julian ROBLES

FORWARDS
Leo BIAGINI (Arg)
CARLOS Dominguez
Samuel ETO'O (Cam)
JOSEMI
Alberto LUQUE

COACH
Gregorio MANZANO

OUT: Siviero (Albacete); Paunovic (Atletico); Serrizuela (Independiente); Engonga; Roa

OSASUNA

GOALKEEPERS
Ricardo SANZOL
Juan Carlos UNZUE

DEFENDERS
ANTONIO LOPEZ Gutierrez
Cesar CRUCHAGA
IBAN PEREZ
JOSETXO
Francisco Javier JUSUE
Jose Manuel MATEO
Manuel VIDRIO (Mex)
Jose Manuel YANGUAS

MIDFIELDERS
ALFREDO Sanchez
DAVID Sanchez CANO
Angel LEKUMBERRI
Mohammed El Yaagoubi, MOHA
Inaki MUNOZ
Cesar PALACIOS
Leonel Fernando 'PIPA' GANCEDO
Francisco PUNAL
Gerrardo Damian RIVERO (Arg)

FORWARDS
John ALOISI (Aus)
Mariano Andres ARMENTANO (Arg)
GORKA de Carlos
IVAN ROSADO
Carlos OCHOA (Mex)

COACH
Javier AGUIRRE (Mex)

OUT: Fernando, Contreras (both Celta); Arpon (Recreativo)

RACING SANTANDER

GOALKEEPERS
Francisco BORJA
Jose Maria CEBALLOS
Erwin LEMMENS (Blg)

DEFENDERS
Claudio David ARZENO (Arg)
Ilan BACHAR (Isr)
JUANMA
MORA
NERU
PABLO CASAR
SIETES
TXEMA

MIDFIELDERS
Yossi BENAYOUN (Isr)
David BILLABONA
CESAR PORRAS Ruiz
ISMAEL Ruiz
Diego MATEO (Arg)
Fernando MORAN
Medhi NAFTI (Fra)
Javier PINEDA Cabo
TXOMIN Arrotegui
VIVAR DORADO

FORWARDS
Rodolfo BODIPO
Francisco Javier GUERRERO
PABLO LAGO
Mario REGUEIRO (Uru)
Pablo SIERRA

COACH
Manuel PRECIADOS

OUT: Cesar (Athletic); Julio Alvarez (Rayo); Preciado (Deportivo Cali); Mazzoni; Hans; Mena

RAYO VALLECANO

GOALKEEPERS
Imanol ETXEBERRIA
SEGURA

DEFENDERS
Sergio CORINO
Ramon DE QUINTANA
Patricio GRAFF (Arg)
Diego MAINZ
MARIO Gomez
MAURO Garcia
Ruben PULIDO

MIDFIELDERS
Jorge AZKOITIA
HELDER (Por)
IVAN IGLESIAS
JULIO ALVAREZ
LUIS CEMBRANOS
MICHEL
Sergio MORA
PABLO SANZ
Jose Maria QUEVEDO
Josep SETVALLS

FORWARDS
Elvir BOLIC (Bos)
BOLO
Javier CAMUNAS
MICHEL II
Roberto PERAGON

COACH
Fernando VAZQUEZ

OUT: Arteaga (Espanyol); Roy; Glaucio; Ferron

REAL MADRID

GOALKEEPERS
Iker CASILLAS
CESAR Sanchez

DEFENDERS
Fernando HIERRO
JULIO CESAR (Bra)
Miguel Angel MICHEL SALGADO
Oscar MINAMBRES
Francisco PAVON
RAUL BRAVO
ROBERTO CARLOS da Silva (Bra)

MIDFIELDERS
Estaban CAMBIASSO (Arg)
Albert CELADES
FERNANDO Miguel
Luis Filipe Madeira, FIGO (Por)
FLAVIO da CONCEICAO (Bra)
Jose Maria Gutierrez, GUTI
IVAN HELGUERA
Claude MAKELELE (Fra)
Steve McMANAMAN (Eng)
Santiago SOLARI (Arg)
Zinedine ZIDANE (Fra)

FORWARDS
Edwin CONGO (Col)
Fernando MORIENTES
Pedro MUNITIS
Javier PORTILLO
RAUL Gonzalez
SAVIO Bortolini (Bra)
TOTE

COACH
Vicente DEL BOSQUE

OUT: Karanka (Athletic); Aganzo (Valladolid); Baljic (Galatasaray); Alvaro (Getafe); Geremi (Middlesbrough); Ivan Campo

REAL SOCIEDAD

GOALKEEPERS
ALBERTO
Sander WESTERVELD (Hol)

DEFENDERS
Mikel ARANBURU
Agustin ARANZABAL
Sergio BORIS Gonzalez
Zuhaitz GURRUTXAGA
Bjorn Tore KVARME (Nor)
Aitor LOPEZ REKARTE
Jose Antonio PIKABEA

MIDFIELDERS
Jose Javier BARKERO
Francisco Javier DE PEDRO
Igor GABILONDO
JAUREGI
Valeri KARPIN (Rus)
Dmitri KHOKHLOV (Rus)
TAYFUN Korkut (Tur)
XABI ALONSO

FORWARDS
Alberto ALEJANDRO
Oscar DE PAULA
Darko KOVACEVIC (Yug)
Joseba LLORENTE
NIHAT Kahveci (Tur)

COACH
Raynald DENOUEIX (Fra)

OUT: Jankauskas (FC Porto); Asper (Malmo); Demetradze (Alaniya Vladikavkaz); Loren

RECREATIVO

GOALKEEPERS
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Juan Carlos CASTILLA
CESAR Miguel
Jose Antonio LUQUE

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ALEX PEREIRA
Pedro Lopez BARQUERO
Miguel Angel ESPINOLA
Jose GALAN
IKER BEGONA
LOREN
ROBERTO Rodriguez
Sergio TEJERO

MIDFIELDERS
Francisco ABEL
Oscar ARPON
Ignacio BENITEZ
Diego CAMACHO
CHELI
David Garcia CUBILLO
JAVI GARCIA
JOSE MARI
Juan MERINO
MORENO
Rafael RIANO
Emilio Jose VIQUEIRA

FORWARDS
Juan Jose BAUTISTA
Mario BERMEJO
KAIKU
Raul PICHARDO
RAUL MOLINA
Enrique ROMERO
XISCO

COACH
Lucas ALCARAZ

OUT: Antonito (Sevilla); Soriano (Zaragoza); Oscar; Gallego

SEVILLA

GOALKEEPERS
Juan Carlos CABALLERO
Antonio NOTARIO
Frode OLSEN (Nor)

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DAVID Castero
JAVI NAVARRO
JUANMI Gelabert
Zoran NJEGUS (Yug)
PABLO ALFARO
Jose Miguel PRIETO
Juan Luis REDONDO

MIDFIELDERS
ALFONSO Vera (Uru)
FRANCISCO Lama
FREDI
Francisco GALLARDO
JAVI CASQUERO
MARCOS VALES Ilanes
Inti PODESTA (Uru)
Vinny SAMWAYS (Eng)
TOMAS Alberto
Gerardo TORRADO (Mex)
VICTOR SALAS

FORWARDS
ANTONITO
JAIME Martinez
MOISES Garcia
Jose Antonio REYES
Mariano TOEDTLI (Arg)

COACH
Joaquin CAPARROS

OUT: Tabare (Elche); Olivera

VALENCIA

GOALKEEPERS
Santiago CANIZARES
Andres PALOP
David RANGEL

DEFENDERS
Roberto AYALA (Arg)
Amedeo CARBONI (Ita)
CURRO TORRES
DAVID NAVARRO Pedros
Miroslav DJUKIC (Yug)
FABIO AURELIO (Bra)
Javier GARRIDO
Carlos MARCHENA
Mauricio PELLEGRINO (Arg)

MIDFIELDERS
Pablo AIMAR (Arg)
David ALBELDA
Miguel Angel ANGULO
Ruben BARAJA
KILY GONZALEZ (Arg)
Francisco Javier RUFETE
VICENTE Rodriguez

FORWARDS
John CAREW (Nor)
DIEGO Martin ALONSO (Uru)
JUAN SANCHEZ
MISTA
SALVA

COACH
Rafael BENITEZ

OUT: Parri (Albacete); Jandro (Celta); Angloma (retired); Ilie

VALLADOLID

GOALKEEPERS
Albano BIZZARRI (Arg)
JON ANDER Lopez
JULIO Jose IGLESIAS
RICARDO Lopez

DEFENDERS
GASPAR Galvez
Alberto MARCOS
Pedro MARIO
Javier David MUSTAFA (Arg)
OSCAR SANCHEZ Fuentes
Juan Manuel PENA (Bol)
Jose Luis SANTAMARIA
Manuel TENA
Javier TORRES GOMEZ

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ANTONIO LOPEZ
Jose Luis CAMINERO
CHEMA
Dragan CIRIC (Yug)
JAVI JIMENEZ
JESUS Sanchez
Luis MARQUEZ
OSCAR Gonzalez
Pablo Javier RICHETTI (Arg)
Francisco David SOUSA

FORWARDS
David AGANZO
Jose Alfredo CASTILLO (Bol)
FERNANDO SALES
Valentin PACHON

COACH
Pepe MORE

OUT: Lozano (Mallorca); Tote, Fernando (both Real Madrid); Eusebio; Blanco

VILLARREAL

GOALKEEPERS
LOPEZ VALLEJO
Jose Manuel REINA
Jesus UNANUA

DEFENDERS
Rodolfo ARRUABARRENA (Arg)
Sergio Martinez BALLESTEROS
BELLETTI (Bra)
Jesus GALVAN
JAVI VENTA
QUICHE ALVAREZ
QUIQUE MEDINA
UNAI Vergara

MIDFIELDERS
Javier CALLEJA
Constantin GALCA (Rom)
Francisco Javier GRACIA
JORGE LOPEZ Montana
JOSICO
Ruben REYES

FORWARDS
Carlos ARANDA
Jose Antonio GUAYRE
Martin PALERMO (Arg)
VICTOR Manuel

COACH
Victor MUNOZ

OUT: Escoda (Salamanca); Xavi Roca (Espanyol); Craioveanu (Getafe); Pizzi; Amor

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SPAIN FIXTURES

SUN, SEPTEMBER 1, 2002
Barcelona v Atletico Madrid
Deportivo v Betis
Mallorca v Valencia
Rayo Vallecano v Alaves
Real Sociedad v Athletic Bilbao
Sevilla v Celta
Villarreal v Osasuna
Recreativo v Malaga
Racing Santander v Valladolid
Real Madrid v Espanyol

SUN, SEPTEMBER 15
Athletic Bilbao v Barcelona
Atletico Madrid v Sevilla
Celta v Mallorca
Espanyol v Real Sociedad
Osasuna v Deportivo
Valencia v Recreativo
Malaga v Rayo Vallecano
Betis v Real Madrid
Valladolid v Villarreal
Alaves v Racing Santander

SUN, SEPTEMBER 22
Barcelona v Espanyol
Deportivo v Valladolid
Mallorca v Atletico Madrid
Rayo Vallecano v Racing Santander
Real Sociedad v Betis
Sevilla v Athletic Bilbao
Villarreal v Alaves
Malaga v Valencia
Recreativo v Celta
Real Madrid v Osasuna

SUN, SEPTEMBER 29
Athletic Bilbao v Mallorca
Atletico Madrid v Recreativo
Celta v Malaga
Espanyol v Sevilla
Osasuna v Real Sociedad
Valencia v Rayo Vallecano
Betis v Barcelona
Valladolid v Real Madrid
Racing Santander v Villarreal
Alaves v Deportivo

SUN, OCTOBER 6
Barcelona v Osasuna
Deportivo v Racing Santander
Mallorca v Espanyol
Rayo Vallecano v Villarreal
Real Sociedad v Valladolid
Sevilla v Betis
Valencia v Celta
Malaga v Atletico Madrid
Recreativo v Athletic Bilbao
Real Madrid v Alaves

SUN, OCTOBER 20
Athletic Bilbao v Malaga
Atletico Madrid v Valencia
Celta v Rayo Vallecano
Espanyol v Recreativo
Osasuna v Sevilla
Villarreal v Deportivo
Betis v Mallorca
Valladolid v Barcelona
Racing Santander v Real Madrid
Alaves v Real Sociedad

SUN, OCTOBER 27
Barcelona v Alaves
Celta v Atletico Madrid
Mallorca v Osasuna
Rayo Vallecano v Deportivo
Real Sociedad v Racing Santander
Sevilla v Valladolid
Valencia v Athletic Bilbao
Malaga v Espanyol
Recreativo v Betis
Real Madrid v Villarreal

SUN, NOVEMBER 3
Athletic Bilbao v Celta
Atletico Madrid v Rayo Vallecano
Deportivo v Real Madrid
Espanyol v Valencia
Osasuna v Recreativo
Villarreal v Real Sociedad
Betis v Malaga
Valladolid v Mallorca
Racing Santander v Barcelona
Alaves v Sevilla

SUN, NOVEMBER 10
Atletico Madrid v Athletic Bilbao
Barcelona v Villarreal
Celta v Espanyol
Mallorca v Alaves
Rayo Vallecano v Real Madrid
Real Sociedad v Deportivo
Sevilla v Racing Santander
Valencia v Betis
Malaga v Osasuna
Recreativo v Valladolid

SUN, NOVEMBER 17
Athletic Bilbao v Rayo Vallecano
Deportivo v Barcelona
Espanyol v Atletico Madrid
Osasuna v Valencia
Villarreal v Sevilla
Betis v Celta
Valladolid v Malaga
Racing Santander v Mallorca
Alaves v Recreativo
Real Madrid v Real Sociedad

SUN, NOVEMBER 24
Athletic Bilbao v Espanyol
Atletico Madrid v Betis
Barcelona v Real Madrid
Celta v Osasuna
Mallorca v Villarreal
Rayo Vallecano v Real Sociedad
Sevilla v Deportivo
Valencia v Valladolid
Malaga v Alaves
Recreativo v Racing Santander

SUN, DECEMBER 1
Deportivo v Mallorca
Espanyol v Rayo Vallecano
Osasuna v Atletico Madrid
Real Sociedad v Barcelona
Villarreal v Recreativo
Betis v Athletic Bilbao
Valladolid v Celta
Racing Santander v Malaga
Alaves v Valencia
Real Madrid v Sevilla

SUN, DECEMBER 8
Athletic Bilbao v Osasuna
Atletico Madrid v Valladolid
Celta v Alaves
Espanyol v Betis
Mallorca v Real Madrid
Rayo Vallecano v Barcelona
Sevilla v Real Sociedad
Valencia v Racing Santander
Malaga v Villarreal
Recreativo v Deportivo

SUN, DECEMBER 15
Barcelona v Sevilla
Deportivo v Malaga
Osasuna v Espanyol
Real Sociedad v Mallorca
Villarreal v Valencia
Betis v Rayo Vallecano
Valladolid v Athletic Bilbao
Racing Santander v Celta
Alaves v Atletico Madrid
Real Madrid v Recreativo

SUN, DECEMBER 22
Athletic Bilbao v Alaves
Atletico Madrid v Racing Santander
Celta v Villarreal
Espanyol v Valladolid
Mallorca v Barcelona
Rayo Vallecano v Sevilla
Valencia v Deportivo
Malaga v Real Madrid
Recreativo v Real Sociedad
Betis v Osasuna

SUN, JANUARY 5, 2003
Barcelona v Recreativo
Deportivo v Celta
Osasuna v Rayo Vallecano
Real Sociedad v Malaga
Sevilla v Mallorca
Villarreal v Atletico Madrid
Valladolid v Betis
Racing Santander v Athletic Bilbao
Alaves v Espanyol
Real Madrid v Valencia

SUN, JANUARY 12
Athletic Bilbao v Villarreal
Atletico Madrid v Deportivo
Celta v Real Madrid
Espanyol v Racing Santander
Osasuna v Valladolid
Rayo Vallecano v Mallorca
Valencia v Real Sociedad
Malaga v Barcelona
Recreativo v Sevilla
Betis v Alaves

SUN, JANUARY 19
Barcelona v Valencia
Deportivo v Athletic Bilbao
Mallorca v Recreativo
Rayo Vallecano v Valladolid
Real Sociedad v Celta
Sevilla v Malaga
Villarreal v Espanyol
Racing Santander v Betis
Alaves v Osasuna
Real Madrid v Atletico Madrid

SUN, JANUARY 26
Athletic Bilbao v Real Madrid
Atletico Madrid v Real Sociedad
Celta v Barcelona
Espanyol v Deportivo
Osasuna v Racing Santander
Valencia v Sevilla
Malaga v Mallorca
Recreativo v Rayo Vallecano
Betis v Villarreal
Valladolid v Alaves

SUN, FEBRUARY 2
Athletic Bilbao v Real Sociedad
Atletico Madrid v Barcelona
Celta v Sevilla
Espanyol v Real Madrid
Osasuna v Villarreal
Valencia v Mallorca
Malaga v Recreativo
Betis v Deportivo
Valladolid v Racing Santander
Alaves v Rayo Vallecano

SUN, FEBRUARY 9
Barcelona v Athletic Bilbao
Deportivo v Osasuna
Mallorca v Celta
Rayo Vallecano v Malaga
Real Sociedad v Espanyol
Sevilla v Atletico Madrid
Villarreal v Valladolid
Recreativo v Valencia
Racing Santander v Alaves
Real Madrid v Betis

SUN, FEBRUARY 16
Athletic Bilbao v Sevilla
Atletico Madrid v Mallorca
Celta v Recreativo
Espanyol v Barcelona
Osasuna v Real Madrid
Valencia v Malaga
Betis v Real Sociedad
Valladolid v Deportivo
Racing Santander v Rayo Vallecano
Alaves v Villarreal

SUN, FEBRUARY 23
Barcelona v Betis
Deportivo v Alaves
Mallorca v Athletic Bilbao
Rayo Vallecano v Valencia
Real Sociedad v Osasuna
Sevilla v Espanyol
Villarreal v Racing Santander
Malaga v Celta
Recreativo v Atletico Madrid
Real Madrid v Valladolid

SUN, MARCH 2
Athletic Bilbao v Recreativo
Atletico Madrid v Malaga
Celta v Valencia
Espanyol v Mallorca
Osasuna v Barcelona
Villarreal v Rayo Vallecano
Betis v Sevilla
Valladolid v Real Sociedad
Racing Santander v Deportivo
Alaves v Real Madrid

SUN, MARCH 9
Barcelona v Valladolid
Deportivo v Villarreal
Mallorca v Betis
Rayo Vallecano v Celta
Real Sociedad v Alaves
Sevilla v Osasuna
Valencia v Atletico Madrid
Malaga v Athletic Bilbao
Recreativo v Espanyol
Real Madrid v Racing Santander

SUN, MARCH 16
Athletic Bilbao v Valencia
Atletico Madrid v Celta
Deportivo v Rayo Vallecano
Espanyol v Malaga
Osasuna v Mallorca
Villarreal v Real Madrid
Betis v Recreativo
Valladolid v Sevilla
Racing Santander v Real Sociedad
Alaves v Barcelona

SUN, MARCH 23
Barcelona v Racing Santander
Celta v Athletic Bilbao
Mallorca v Valladolid
Rayo Vallecano v Atletico Madrid
Real Sociedad v Villarreal
Sevilla v Alaves
Valencia v Espanyol
Malaga v Betis
Recreativo v Osasuna
Real Madrid v Deportivo

SUN, APRIL 6

Athletic Bilbao v Atletico Madrid
Deportivo v Real Sociedad
Espanyol v Celta
Osasuna v Malaga
Villarreal v Barcelona
Betis v Valencia
Valladolid v Recreativo
Racing Santander v Sevilla
Alaves v Mallorca
Real Madrid v Rayo Vallecano

SUN, APRIL 13

Atletico Madrid v Espanyol
Barcelona v Deportivo
Celta v Betis
Mallorca v Racing Santander
Rayo Vallecano v Athletic Bilbao
Real Sociedad v Real Madrid
Sevilla v Villarreal
Valencia v Osasuna
Malaga v Valladolid
Recreativo v Alaves

SUN, APRIL 20

Deportivo v Sevilla
Espanyol v Athletic Bilbao
Osasuna v Celta
Real Sociedad v Rayo Vallecano
Villarreal v Mallorca
Betis v Atletico Madrid
Valladolid v Valencia
Racing Santander v Recreativo
Alaves v Malaga
Real Madrid v Barcelona

SUN, APRIL 27

Athletic Bilbao v Betis
Atletico Madrid v Osasuna
Barcelona v Real Sociedad
Celta v Valladolid
Mallorca v Deportivo
Rayo Vallecano v Espanyol
Sevilla v Real Madrid
Valencia v Alaves
Malaga v Racing Santander
Recreativo v Villarreal

SUN, MAY 4

Barcelona v Rayo Vallecano
Deportivo v Recreativo
Osasuna v Athletic Bilbao
Real Sociedad v Sevilla
Villarreal v Malaga
Betis v Espanyol
Valladolid v Atletico Madrid
Racing Santander v Valencia
Alaves v Celta
Real Madrid v Mallorca

SUN, MAY 11

Athletic Bilbao v Valladolid
Atletico Madrid v Alaves
Celta v Racing Santander
Espanyol v Osasuna
Mallorca v Real Sociedad
Rayo Vallecano v Betis
Sevilla v Barcelona
Valencia v Villarreal
Malaga v Deportivo
Recreativo v Real Madrid

SUN, MAY 18

Barcelona v Mallorca
Deportivo v Valencia
Osasuna v Betis
Real Sociedad v Recreativo
Sevilla v Rayo Vallecano
Villarreal v Celta
Valladolid v Espanyol
Racing Santander v Atletico Madrid
Alaves v Athletic Bilbao
Real Madrid v Malaga

SUN, MAY 25

Athletic Bilbao v Racing Santander
Atletico Madrid v Villarreal
Celta v Deportivo
Espanyol v Alaves
Mallorca v Sevilla
Rayo Vallecano v Osasuna
Valencia v Real Madrid
Malaga v Real Sociedad
Recreativo v Barcelona
Betis v Valladolid

SUN, JUNE 1

Barcelona v Malaga
Deportivo v Atletico Madrid
Mallorca v Rayo Vallecano
Real Sociedad v Valencia
Sevilla v Recreativo
Villarreal v Athletic Bilbao
Valladolid v Osasuna
Racing Santander v Espanyol
Alaves v Betis
Real Madrid v Celta

SUN, JUNE 15

Athletic Bilbao v Deportivo
Atletico Madrid v Real Madrid
Celta v Real Sociedad
Espanyol v Villarreal
Osasuna v Alaves
Valencia v Barcelona
Malaga v Sevilla
Recreativo v Mallorca
Betis v Racing Santander
Valladolid v Rayo Vallecano

SUN, JUNE 22

Barcelona v Celta
Deportivo v Espanyol
Mallorca v Malaga
Rayo Vallecano v Recreativo
Real Sociedad v Atletico Madrid
Sevilla v Valencia
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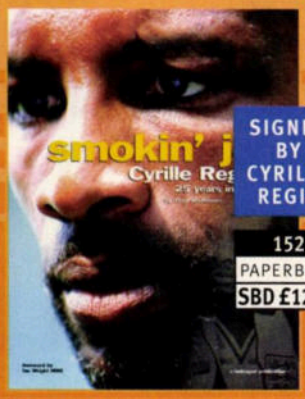

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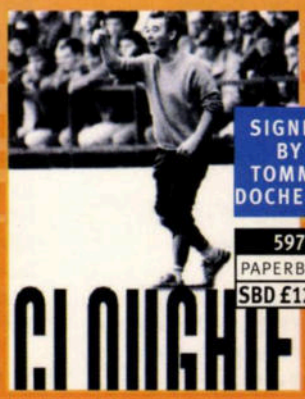

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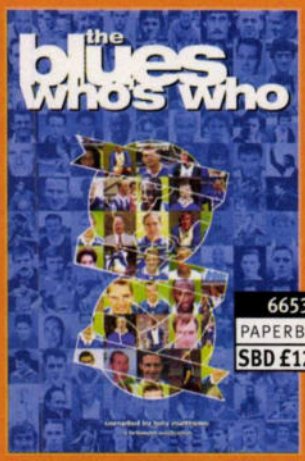

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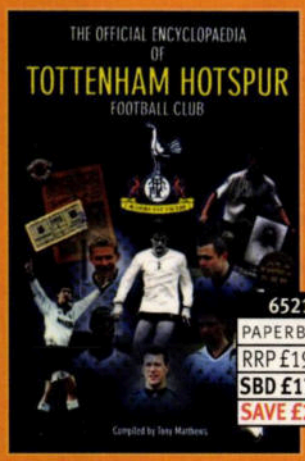

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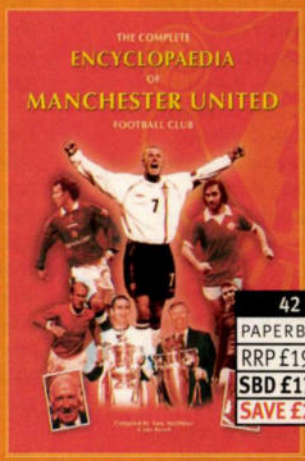

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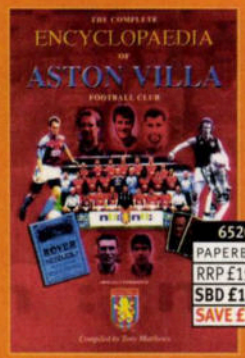

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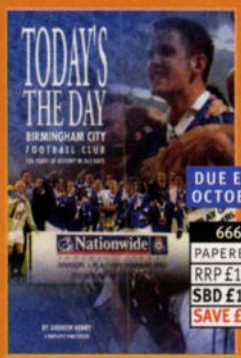

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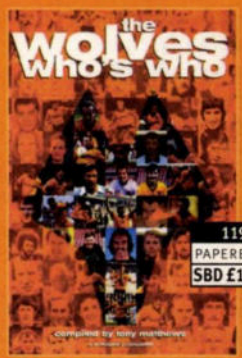

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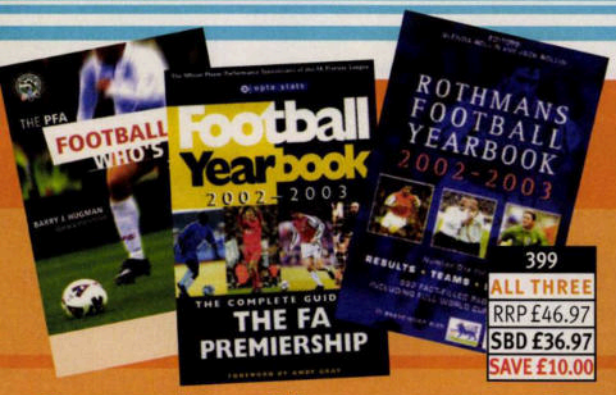

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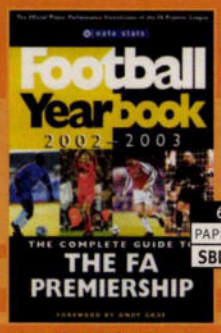

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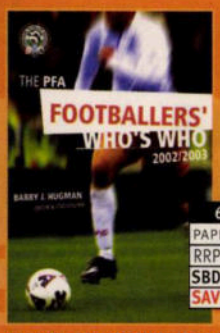

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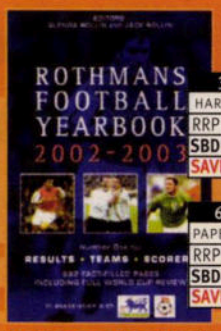

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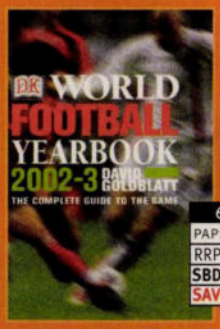

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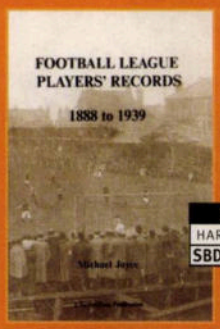

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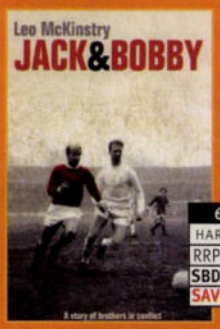

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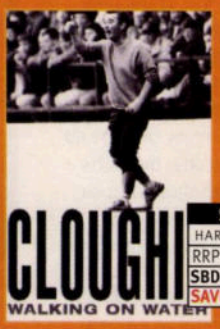

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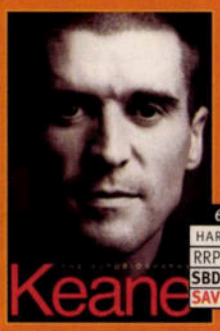

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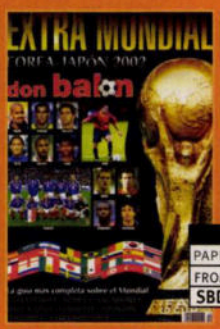

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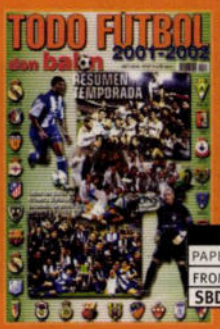

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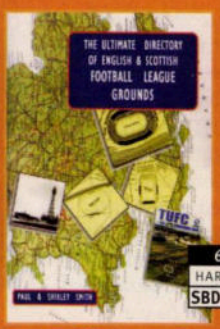

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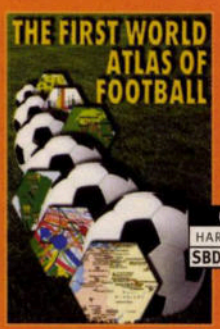

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ITALY

Farewell, Fiorentina

Paddy Agnew on the collapse of one of Serie A's most famous clubs

Burning issue...Fiorentina fans set fire to a T-shirt bearing a message of hate for owner Vittorio Cecchi Gori

FIORENTINA are dead, long live Fiorentina. The ongoing *annus horribilis* of Italian soccer, ranging from Champions League failure to World Cup disgrace, hit another low on the eve of the new season when Fiorentina finally lost their long drawn-out battle to avoid liquidation. The club were thus refused a place in Serie B and AC Fiorentina consigned to the dustbin of football history.

The financial collapse of Fiorentina came as no surprise. Throughout the past decade, the club's finances had become tied up with those of their owner, cinema producer Vittorio Cecchi Gori, whose late father had bought an 89 per cent majority shareholding in 1990.

For much of the subsequent decade, Cecchi Gori junior had looked like an all-Italian success story. His company picked up Oscars for two films, *Mediterraneo* and *Life is Beautiful*, he bought TV channel Telemontecarlo, and he also won a seat in parliament for the centre-left.

In recent years, however, the Cecchi Gori empire has been in difficulty. Telemontecarlo failed to take off under his direction, eventually forcing him to sell out. His production company suffered a bad blow when he separated from his wife, Rita Rusic, arguably his most talented strategist. And in May last year he lost his seat at the General Election.

Fourteen months ago, the Cecchi Gori crisis became deeply serious when magistrates revealed that he was under investigation for alleged "false accounting" i.e. cooking the books, embezzlement and money laundering. In particular, he was accused of having transferred significant sums of money from Fiorentina to his family financial holding company, Fin.Ma.Vi.

When the news broke, most observers speculated that it would be only a matter of time before Cecchi Gori would sell Fiorentina. Despite several promises to that effect, however, and despite being vociferously encouraged by the Fiorentina fans, Cecchi Gori declined, arguing that he had never received a decent offer.

In the end, he took Fiorentina down with him.

For all of last season, they had fought a twin battle against relegation and liquidation. The financial uncertainty so completely undermined the club that first relegation and eventually liquidation became inevitable. When the deadline for inscription in Serie B came around in early August, Fiorentina were reporting debts of £12.5million, much of those attributable to five months of backpay owed to players. Furthermore, it was estimated that another £25m would be needed to re-finance the club and set it up for the new season. Adopting a King Canute stance, Cecchi Gori kept on promising right to the last that money would arrive. On the day the League eventually threw out Fiorentina, Cecchi Gori was still hoping against hope, even suggesting that a bank in Medellin, Colombia, would be sending a fax to confirm its intention of bankrolling the club.

For the League, however, Cecchi Gori had cried wolf too often. AC Fiorentina were refused a place in Serie B, prompting both the death and immediate resurrection of the name Fiorentina. Having watched Fiorentina's agony in the role of more than mildly interested spectator, Florence city council was ready to step in, forming a new club called Fiorentina 1926 Florentia.

Within a week, Diego Della Vale, creator of the international shoe brand Tod's, had stepped in to buy the new club, which was duly enrolled in Italy's bottom professional division, Serie C2 or Division Four. The collapse of AC Fiorentina left all their players as free agents, something not unexpected by other clubs, who could thus pick up such as Portugal's Nuno Gomes (who returned to Benfica), Enrico Chiesa, Daniele Adani (signed by Inter), Sandro Cois, Cristian Amoroso, captain Angelo Di Livio and Marco Rossi on a late but free transfer.

The new Fiorentina, therefore, will start off with a squad of largely untried, reserve players due to be coached by former Roma, Sampdoria and Juventus defender Pietro Vierchowod. Former Fiorentina and Milan goalkeeper Giovanni Galli will be the new club's technical director.

The speed of Fiorentina's decline and fall begs at least a moment's pause for thought. After all, only 12 months ago *La Viola* started the season in Serie A as Italian Cup holders, due to play in the UEFA Cup. Just three seasons ago, they were playing in the Champions League, beating the likes of Arsenal and Manchester United in the process. Yet, when the new season begins Fiorentina 1926

will find themselves up against the likes of Castel di Sangro, Fano, Grossetto, Gubbio and Montevarchi.

Nor is it merely journalistic hyperbole to suggest that Fiorentina are a club with a famous reputation and glorious tradition. Twice winners of the scudetto (1956, 1969), Fiorentina were the first Italian club to lift a European trophy when defeating Rangers 2-1 to win the 1961 Cup-winners Cup. Arguably more important is the fact that some of the game's great names have strutted their stuff at Fiorentina, including Swede Kurt Hamrin in the 1950s, Giancarlo Antognoni in the 1970s and 1980s, Roberto Baggio in the late 1980s, and Gabriel Batistuta in the 1990s.

The fact that such a club have been brought down (even if subsequently resuscitated) by the bitter winds of lately come-by fiscal rectitude and economic realism says much about the changing face of Italian soccer. For once, League officials, banks, politicians and accountants said enough was enough. How many other Fiorentinas are waiting to implode further down the line?

The same economic realism may yet delay the start of the new Italian season, due to kick-off on September 1. Eight of the Serie A minnows (Atalanta, Brescia, Chievo, Como, Empoli, Modena, Perugia and Piacenza) are currently at odds with pay-TV satellite channels Tele Piu and Stream (due to be merged this autumn).

The smaller clubs resent the fact that the big-name clubs such as Inter, Juventus and Milan receive up to 15 times as much as them by way of pay-TV rights contracts. The pay-TV companies, however, argue that their viewing figures (2.5m subscribers between them, at best) dictate the difference in offer. In the meantime, the smaller clubs have formed a company, Plus Media Trading, that may yet attempt to launch its own digital channel. This one could run and run.

Finally, in the wake of Italy's miserable World Cup showing, perhaps it may be worth listening to the opinions of two former Milan players, Spaniards Jose Mari and Javi Moreno, both just returned to their native land to play for Atletico Madrid. In an interview with Spanish daily *El Pais* both men described their time in Italy as an unhappy experience. Jose Mari argued that the dominant philosophy in Italian football is "anti-play", while Javi Moreno added: "The Italian idea of a game is limited to going for a 1-0 win, and it doesn't matter if you play badly or well."

Perhaps Italy coach Giovanni Trapattoni should summon them for a brain-storming session.

THE SUMMER'S KEY MOVES

RIVALDO
Barcelona to Milan. Brazilian World Cup-winner's contract cancelled by Barcelona. Milan offered most enticing deal.

FABIO CANNAVARO
Parma to Inter. Italy defender was always set to leave Parma, but move to Juventus broke down, only for Inter to step in.

CLARENCE SEEDORF
Inter to Milan. One of a number of swap/loan deals between the two Milan clubs, with Francesco Coco, back from Barcelona, heading in the other direction.

DANIELE ADANI
Fiorentina to Inter. Italian international defender pulled from wreckage of Fiorentina's collapse by Inter.

MATIAS ALMEYDA
Parma to Inter. Sign of troubled times – another swap deal, with Slovakian defender Vratislav Gresko replacing Argentinian midfielder Almeyda at Parma.

SHUNSUKE NAKAMURA
Yokohama F Marinos to Reggina. One of the more curious foreign arrivals, a Japanese midfielder who missed out on his country's World Cup adventure.

JON DAHL TOMASSON
Feyenoord to Milan. Danish World Cup forward and star of last season's UEFA Cup Final arrived on lucrative free transfer, only to be overshadowed by Rivaldo.

CARSTEN JANCKER
Bayern Munich to Udinese. Giant striker brings German presence in Serie A for the first time since Oliver Bierhoff's departure.

Players to watch

MATTEO BRIGHI, JUVENTUS
Under-21 midfielder back in Turin after outstanding season on loan at Bologna.

DAVIDE BAIOCCO, JUVENTUS
Another shrewd buy by the champions, signing Perugia's best player of last season.

ADRIANO, PARMA
Powerful young Brazilian striker, strong in the air with howitzer left foot. Surprisingly loaned out again by Inter after making a big impact at Fiorentina.

DANIELE BONERA, PARMA
Highly rated young central defender signed from Brescia and who Parma hope will cover for loss of Cannavaro.

MAURO CAMORANESI, JUVENTUS
Argentinian midfielder who impressed last season despite Verona's relegation.

High profile...Rivaldo in Milan colours

Inter head the pack

Paddy Agnew on the Serie A contenders

Atalanta

After an extraordinary season two years ago when they travelled in the Champions League zone for most of the competition, Atalanta returned to normality last year, comfortably avoiding the drop. Survival will again be the height of their ambitions, and with Italy midfielder Cristiano Doni, 38-year-old defender Massimo Carrera, midfielders Daniele Berretta, Luciano Zauri and striker Fausto Rossini all remaining, they should again prove good enough to stay up.

Bologna

Having narrowly missed out on the UEFA Cup at the end of an excellent season, Bologna have made repairs with an InterToto Cup run that at press time had taken them to a Final with Fulham. Although they still look to the talented strikeforce of Giuseppe Signori and Julio Cruz, they may yet regret the departure of Fabio Pecchia (Como), Matteo Brighi and Salvatore Fresi (both Juventus).

Brescia

It required a 3-0 home win against Bologna on the last day of last season to ensure Brescia's Serie A survival, and even with the enigmatic Little Prince of Italian soccer, alias Roberto Baggio, still in their ranks, it will doubtless again be a struggle this term to avoid the drop. The arrival of Ghana's Stephen Appiah (Parma) may partly compensate for the loss of Jonathon Binotto (Como) and Daniele Bonera (Parma).

Chievo

One of the most intriguing questions about the new season concerns Chievo, not only the biggest surprise of last term but arguably the side that played the best football of the entire Serie A campaign. Can they repeat themselves second time round when they are no longer the 'fairytale' debutants? Even if coach Gigi Del Neri has remained, Chievo will still be badly penalised by the departure of striker Bernardo Corradi (Inter) as well as both their wide midfield men – Brazilian Eriberto and Christian Manfredini (almost certainly destined for Lazio).

Como

Back in Serie A for the first time since finishing bottom of the table in the 1988-89 season, Como have resorted to the tried and trusted method of hiring experienced journeymen in order to fight off relegation.

Back at Lazio...Baronio

Players such as Jonathon Binotto (Brescia), goalkeeper Fabrizio Ferron (Verona), Brazilian Juarez (Lecce) as well as Massimo Tarantino, Fabio Pecchia and Pasquale Padalino (all Bologna) may prove just enough to see Como stay up.

Empoli

Back in the top flight after a four-year gap, Empoli risk a quick return to Serie B, judging from the inexperienced look of a squad all the more weakened by Massimo Maccarone's £8 million move to Middlesbrough.

Internazionale

All the indicators suggest that Inter have to start as favourites. The side that threw away the title when losing 4-2 to Lazio on the last day of last season will hardly lack for motivation. Useful acquisitions have been made in the shape of such as Fabio Cannavaro and Matias Almeyda (both Parma), while even the spoilt and petulant World Cup winner Ronaldo now seems ready to (finally) take his place alongside Christian Vieri in attack. Perhaps the best news of all regarding Inter's title challenge, however, is the fact that Argentinian coach Hector Cuper, worker of a much underrated miracle last season, has signed a new contract through to 2005.

Juventus

Logic would suggest that 26-times champions Juventus may, subconsciously at least, favour the Champions League over the scudetto this time. With coach Marcello Lippi more firmly in the saddle than ever after that last-gasp title win last May and with useful recruits such as Davide Baiocco (Perugia), Matteo Brighi (Bologna) and Argentinian Mauro Camoranesi (Verona) added to otherwise unchanged ranks, a successful season at home and abroad seems assured.

Lazio

Having threatened to (yet again) dispose of their best players, Lazio have thus far resisted the temptation. Even if the future of captain Alessandro Nesta hung in the balance at press time, Lazio still seem set to start the season with Argentinians Hernan Crespo and Claudio Lopez still in attack, with Dutchman Jaap Stam still in defence and with interesting newcomers in the Chievo pair, Brazilian Eriberto and Christian Manfredini, as well as returning prodigal son Roberto Baronio (Fiorentina). After a half season of hell at Fiorentina, coach Roberto Mancini takes over from Alberto Zaccheroni. If the squad hits it off with Mancini, then Lazio could well leave last season's disappointments far behind.

Milan arrival...Tomasson

Milan

After an indifferent season, Milan emphatically underlined their desire to get back to the top of the Italian and European tree when pulling off the

biggest transfer of the summer – landing out-of-contract Brazilian World Cup hero Rivaldo. Reportedly reeled in with the help of club owner, Italian Prime Minister Silvio Berlusconi no less, Rivaldo joins other new boys such as Danish World Cup forward Jon Dahl Tomasson (Feyenoord), Italy wing-back Francesco Coco (Barcelona), Dutchman Clarence Seedorf (Inter) and Frenchman Cyril Domoraud (Monaco) in an imposing squad. Coach Carlo Ancelotti will think long and hard about his best attacking and midfield options, with residents such as Ukraine bullet Andrii Shevchenko and Filippo Inzaghi in attack and Andrea Pirlo and Portugal's Rui Costa in midfield all pushing the new arrivals for a team place.

Modena

Back in Serie A after 40 years, Modena may struggle to stay up. Goalkeeper Marco Ballotta, winner of a 1993 Cup-winners Cup medal with Parma and the oldest player in Serie A at 38, looks destined to be a busy man. His experience and track record are in sharp contrast with the rest of this largely novice squad.

Parma

After an expensive series of coach changes last season that almost led to relegation (Renzo Ulivieri and Argentinian Daniel Passarella had come and gone before Pietro Carmignani finally straightened things out), Parma would seem to have made an intelligent move in hiring Cesare Prandelli, one of the best young coaches in Italian soccer. Along with new boys such as

Parma capture...Bonera

Brazilians Adriano (Fiorentina) and Matuzalem (Piacenza), defender Daniele Bonera (Brescia) and Australian Mark Bresciano (Empoli), Prandelli represents a sound reason to suggest that Parma will refind their rightful place close to the top of the Italian football tree

Perugia

Perugia were probably the most talked-about Italian club of the summer after boisterously outspoken owner Luciano Gaucci summarily sacked his South Korean star, Ahn Jung-hwan, within hours of Ahn's golden goal World Cup elimination of Italy. Despite Ahn's departure (destination as yet uncertain) and those of Greek defender Traianos Dellas (Roma) and Davide Baiocco (Juventus), Perugia still look serious candidates to avoid the drop, thanks mainly to their having held on to charismatic coach Serse Cosmi.

Piacenza

Notwithstanding the continuing presence of 'golden oldie' and Serie A leading goalscorer, 34-year-old Dario Hubner (24 goals last season to jointly top the chart with Juve's French ace, David Trezeguet), Piacenza may struggle to repeat last season's consistently good form. The departure of such as Nicola Caccia (Ternana), Brazilian Matuzalem (Parma), Carmine Gautieri (Atalanta), Paolo Poggi (Parma) and Sergio Volpi (Sampdoria) hardly strengthens confidence about Piacenza's forthcoming relegation battle.

Reggina

Reggina return to the top flight after just one season in Serie B and with much of the squad that did so well in a historic Serie A debut season three years ago. Undoubtedly, much attention will be focused on the intriguing new entries, Japanese midfielder Shunsuke Nakamura (Yokohama F Marinos) and Paraguay's Carlos Paredes (FC Porto). Yet it may well be the old guard such as Davide Dionigi, Francesco Cozza and Portugal's Jose Mamede who do most to see the side stay up.

Roma

Unless Roma pull off a late transfer coup and land two of their long-term targets, namely Swede Zlatan Ibrahimovic (Ajax) and Juve's combative Dutch midfielder Edgar Davids, then Fabio Capello's side will start their Serie A and Champions

Roma recharge...Batistuta

League challenge with last year's team. Given that they were not good enough to win either prize then, why should they do any better this season, especially since they will be without currently injured playmaker Francesco Totti for at least the first two months? Those who watched Roma's Champions League failure against Liverpool at Anfield would argue that this squad requires little change by way of personnel but rather big changes in their attitude to attack, especially on the part of Capello. A return to form by ageing Argentinian idol Gabriel Batistuta would do no harm either.

Torino

Torino lived up to their reputation for possessing a fighting spirit for much of last season, characterised by their dramatic 3-3 and 2-2 derby draws with crosstown rivals Juventus. With a little-changed squad, Marco Ferrante and Cristiano Lucarelli still in attack, and coach Giancarlo Camolese still on the bench, they should be good enough to at least guarantee Serie A survival.

Udinese

After several excellent seasons near the top of Serie A, Udinese had a poor year last term, avoiding the drop by just one point. New arrivals including German striker Carsten Jancker (Bayern Munich), Czech Marek Jankulovski (Napoli), Argentinian veteran Nestor Sensini (Parma), now in his 14th season in Serie A and 35 in October, may all provide new coach Luciano Spalletti with enough craft and guile to improve this time round.

THE NEW SEASON IN EUROPE

ITALY SQUADS

ATALANTA

GOALKEEPERS
Alex CALDERONI
Massimo TAIBI

DEFENDERS
Gianpaolo BELLINI
Massimo CARRERA
Paolo FOGLIO
Mauro MINELLI
Cesare NATALI
Alessandro RINALDI
Fabio RUSTICO
Luigi SALA
SANTOS (Bra)

MIDFIELDERS
Daniele BERRETTA
Yuri BREVIARIO
Luc CAVALLI
Ousmane DABO (Fra)
Cristiano DONI
Edwards Vinicio ESPINAL (Dom)
FABIANO Medina Da Silva (Bra)
Carmine GAUTIERI
Ivan JAVORCIC (Cro)
Simone PADOIN
Alex PINARDI
Luciano ZAURI
Damiano ZENONI

FORWARDS
Rolando BIANCHI
Gianni COMANDINI
INACIO PIA (Bra)
Apostolos LIOLIDIS (Gre)
Fausto ROSSINI

COACH
Giovanni VAVASSORI

OUT: Saudati (Empoli); Orlandini (Milan); Falsini (Parma); Colombo (Sampdoria)

BOLOGNA

GOALKEEPERS
Gianluca PAGLIUCA
Andrea PANSERA

DEFENDERS
Marcello CASTELLINI
Giulio FALCONE
Alessandro GAMBERINI
Michele PARAMATTI
Pierre Nlend WOME (Cam)
Cristian ZACCARDO

MIDFIELDERS
Andrea ARDITO
Leonardo COLUCCI
Alessandro FRARA
Roberto GORETTI
Tomas LOCATELLI
Fabio MACELLARI
Mourad MEGHNI (Fra)
Carlo NERVO
Renato OLIVE

FORWARDS
Claudio BELLUCCI
Giacomo CIPRIANI
Julio CRUZ (Arg)
Luigi DELLA ROCCA
Giuseppe SIGNORI

COACH
Francesco GUIDOLIN

OUT: Fresi, Matteo Brighi (both Juventus); Tarantino, Pecchia (both Como); Zauli (Vicenza); Firmani, Runstrom (Chievo)

BRESCIA

GOALKEEPERS
Davide MICILLO
Matteo SERENI
Pavel SRNICEK (Cze)

DEFENDERS
Dario DAINELLI
Gilberto MARTINEZ (CR)
Fabio PETRUZZI
Markus SCHOPP (Aut)
Marius STANKEVICIUS (Lit)

MIDFIELDERS
Stephen APPIAH (Gha)
Jonathan BACHINI
Massimiliano CAPUTO
Antonio FILIPPINI
Emanuele FILIPPINI
Federico GIUNTI
Roberto GUANA
Andres Roberto YLLANA (Arg)

FORWARDS
Roberto BAGGIO
Andrea CARACCIOLO
Simone DEL NERO
Raul GONZALEZ (Arg)
Igli TARE (Alb)
Luca TONI

COACH
Carlo MAZZONE

OUT: Bonera (Parma); Mangone (Piacenza); Binotto (Como); Sussi (Genoa); Agliardi (Cosenza); Castellazzi (Reggina)

CHIEVO

GOALKEEPERS
Marco AMBROSIO
Cristiano LUPATELLI

DEFENDERS
Maurizio D'ANGELO
Lorenzo D'ANNA
Salvatore LANNA
Nicola LEGROTTAGLIE
Moreno LONGO
Stefano LORENZI
John MENSAH (Gha)
Fabio MORO
Francesco VICENTI

MIDFIELDERS
Eugenio CORINI
Ivone DE FRANCESCHI
ERIBERTO (Bra)
Massimiliano ESPOSITO
Fabio FIRMANI
Daniele FRANCESCHINI
Christian MANFREDINI
Lilian NALIS (Fra)
Dario PASSONI
Simone PERROTTA

FORWARDS
Luigi BEGHETTO
Federico COSSATO
Massimo MARAZZINA
Sergio PELLISSIER
Bjorn RUNSTROM (Swe)
Marco VERONESE

COACH
Luigi DEL NERI

OUT: Rinaldi (Atalanta); Cleiton (Mantova); Corradi (Inter); Barone (Parma)

COMO

GOALKEEPERS
Alex BRUNNER
Fabrizio FERRON
Stefano LAYENI
Milan ZAHALKA

DEFENDERS
Oscar BREVI
Daniele GREGORI
JUAREZ de Souza Teixeira (Bra)
Pasquale PADALINO
Christian STELLINI
Massimo TARANTINO

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Jorge SERNA (Col)

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Loris DOMINISSINI

OUT: Dundjerski, Gallo (both Treviso); Taldo (Modena); Pedone (Sampdoria); Del Chiaro, Olivares, Femiano (all Lucchese); Pavone (Messina); Zanini, Bega (both Triestina); Terni (Ternana); Ardito (Bologna)

EMPOLI

GOALKEEPERS
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Giacomo MAZZI

DEFENDERS
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Manuel BELLERI
Sanchez CRIBARI (Bra)
Andrea CUPI
Stefano LUCCHINI
Roberto MIRRI

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Antonio BUSCE
Fabrizio FICINI
Flavio GIAMPIERETTI
Vincenzo GRELLA (Aus)
Francesco LODI
Igli VANNUCCHI

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Antonio DI NATALE
Gaetano GRIECO
Tommaso ROCCHI
Luca SAUDATI
Francesco TAVANO
Filippo ZACCHEI

COACH
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INTER

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Francesco TOLDO

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Fabio CANNAVARO
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Ivan CORDOBA (Col)
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Marco MATERAZZI
Michele SERENA
Gonzalo SORONDO (Uru)
Nelson VIVAS (Arg)
Javier ZANETTI (Arg)

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Stephane DALMAT (Fra)
Luigi DI BIAGIO
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Francisco FARINOS (Spa)
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Domenico MORFEO
OKAN Buruk (Tur)
Alvaro RECOBA (Uru)
SERGIO CONCEICAO (Por)
Cristiano ZANETTI

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Mohamed KALLON (SLe)
RONALDO Nazario de Lima (Bra)
Nicola VENTOLA
Christian VIERI

COACH
Hector CUPER (Arg)

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Ciro FERRARA
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Igor TUDOR (Cro)
Gianluca ZAMBROTTA

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COACH
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OUT: Paramatti, Frara (both Bologna), Maresca (Piacenza); Miccoli, Amoruso (both Perugia); Carini (Arsenal)

LAZIO

GOALKEEPERS
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Angelo PERUZZI

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CESAR Rodriguez Aparecido (Bra)
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Giuseppe FAVALLI
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Sinisa MIHAJLOVIC (Yug)
Paolo NEGRO
Alessandro NESTA
Massimo ODDO
Giuseppe PANCARO
Juan Pablo SORIN (Arg)
Jaap STAM (Hol)

MIDFIELDERS
Dino BAGGIO
Roberto BARONIO
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Stefano FIORE
Giuliano GIANNICHEDDA
Guerino GOTTARDI
Fabio LIVERANI
Diego SIMEONE (Arg)
Dejan STANKOVIC (Yug)

FORWARDS
CLAUDIO LOPEZ (Arg)
Hernan CRESPO (Arg)
Simone INZAGHI

COACH
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OUT: Poborsky (Sparta Prague); De la Pena (Porto); Mendieta (Barcelona); Comazzi (Verona)

MILAN

GOALKEEPERS
Christian ABBIATI
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ROQUE JUNIOR Jose Vitor (Bra)
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Filippo INZAGHI
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Jon Dahl TOMASSON (Den)

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OUT: Javi Moreno, Albertini, Jose Mari (all Atletico Madrid); Sarr, Umit Davala (both Galatasaray); Donadel (Lecce); Daino (Ancona); Aliyu (Siena); Kutuzov (Sporting Lisbon); Donati (Parma)

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Giovanni ORFEI
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Paolo PONZO
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Giacomo FERRARI
Diomansy KAMARA (Fra)
Rubens PASINO
Giuseppe SCULLI
Carlo TALDO

COACH
Giovanni DE BIASI

OUT: Domizzi, Rabito (both Sampdoria); Fantini (Venezia); Veronese (Chievo); Tarana (Ancona); Grieco (Catania); Zironelli (Thiene)

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Sebastien FREY (Fra)
Claudio Andre TAFFAREL (Bra)

DEFENDERS
Daniele BONERA
Paolo CANNAVARO
Aimo DIANA
Gianluca FALSINI
Matteo FERRARI
Vratislav GRESKO (Slk)
Sebastiano SIVIGLIA
Stefano TORRISI

MIDFIELDERS
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Simone BARONE
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Hidetoshi NAKATA (Jap)

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Marco DI VAIO
Alberto GILARDINO
HAKAN Sukur (Tur)
Patrick MBOMA (Cam)
Paolo POGGI

COACH
Cesare PRANDELLI

OUT: Montano, Gurenko (both Piacenza); Grieco (Empoli); Sensini (Udinese); Bolano (Sampdoria); Sartor (Roma); Almeyda, F Cannavaro (both Inter); Appiah (Brescia); Boghossian, Milosevic (both Espanyol); Maini (Ancona); Djetou (Fulham)

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Nicolas CINALLI
Zeljko KALAC (Aus)
Andrea MAZZANTINI
Michele TARDIOLI

DEFENDERS
Massimo DE MARTIS
Marco DI LORETO
Neves Freitas HILARIO P. (Por)
Mauro MILANESE
Jose SAMUEL
Sean SOGLIANO
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MIDFIELDERS
Manuele BLASI
Massimiliano FUSANI
Fabio GATTI
Fabio GROSSO
Giorgio LA VISTA
Donovan MAURY (Blg)
Fabian O'NEILL (Uru)
Giovanni TEDESCO
Jose M. Ferreira ZE MARIA (Bra)

FORWARDS
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Nicola AMORUSO
Antonio CRINITI
Fabrizio MICCOLI
Ali SAMEREH (Irn)
Zisis VRYZAS (Gre)

COACH
Serse COSMI

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GOALKEEPERS
Matteo GUARDALBEN
Paolo ORLANDONI

DEFENDERS
Nicola BOSELLI
Giuseppe CARDONE
Filippo CRISTANTE
Sergei GURENKO (Bls)
Gianluca LAMACCHI
Alessandro LUCARELLI
Amedeo MANGONE
Paolo TRAMEZZANI

MIDFIELDERS
Eusebio DI FRANCESCO
Enzo MARESCA
Salvatore MICELI
Jhonnier MONTANO (Col)
Luigi RICCIO
Marco STELLA
Vittorio TOSTO

FORWARDS
Dario ARCOLIN
Nicola CACCIA
Dario HUBNER
Aurelian PATRASCU (Rom)

COACH
Andrea AGOSTINELLI

OUT: Gautieri (Atalanta); Amauri (Empoli); Poggi, Matuzalem (both Parma); Volpi, Sacchetti (both Sampdoria); D Caccia (Ternana); Mora (Bari)

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Luca CASTELLAZZI

DEFENDERS
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Ivan FRANCESCHINI
Martin JIRANEK (Cze)
Giovanni MORABITO
Jorge VARGAS (Chl)

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Julio Cesar LEON (Hnd)
Jose MAMEDE (Por)
MOZART (Bra)
Shunsuke NAKAMURA (Jap)
Carlos PAREDES (Par)
Ricardo Matias VERON (Arg)
Salvatore VICARI

FORWARDS
Erjon BOGDANI (Alb)
Davide DIONIGI
Nassim MENDIL (Fra)
Gianluca SAVOLDI

COACH
Bortolo MUTTI

OUT: Baldini (Napoli); Zoppetti (Lecce); Casale, La Canna (both Cosenza)

ROMA

GOALKEEPERS
Francesco ANTONIOLI
Ivan PELIZZOLI

DEFENDERS
Leandro CUFRE (Arg)
Traianos DELLAS (Gre)
Saliou LASSISSI (IvC)
Christian PANUCCI
Walter SAMUEL (Arg)
Luigi SARTOR
Jonathan ZEBINA (Fra)

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Vincent CANDELA (Fra)
EMERSON Ferreira da Rosa (Bra)
Diego FUSER
Josep GUARDIOLA (Spa)
Gianni GUIGOU (Uru)
Francisco Govinho LIMA (Bra)
Ivan TOMIC (Yug)
Damiano TOMMASI

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Davide BOMBARDINI
Antonio CASSANO
Marco DELVECCHIO
Vincenzo MONTELLA
Francesco TOTTI

COACH
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OUT: Zago (Besiktas); Siviglia (Parma); Assuncao (Betis); Cejas (Ascoli); Pepe (Teramo)

TORINO

GOALKEEPERS
Luca BUCCI
Gabriele PAOLETTI
Stefano SORRENTINO

DEFENDERS
Gianluca COMOTTO
Daniele DELLI CARRI
Stefano FATTORI
Fabio GALANTE
Luigi GARZYA
Davide MANDELLI
Daniele MARTINELLI

MIDFIELDERS
Federico BALZARETTI
Paolo CASTELLINI
Diego DE ASCENTIS
Luca MEZZANO
Alessio SCARCHILLI
Gennaro SCARLATO
Vincenzo SOMMESE
Simone VERGASSOLA

FORWARDS
Marco FERRANTE
Jose FRANCO Ramallo (Uru)
Cristiano LUCARELLI
Yksel OSMANOVSKI (Swe)

COACH
Giancarlo CAMOLESE

OUT: Brambilla (Siena); Cauet (Como)

UDINESE

GOALKEEPERS
Morgan DE SANCTIS
Olivier RENARD (Blg)

DEFENDERS
ALBERTO (Bra)
Valerio BERTOTTO
Jorge Samuel CABALLERO (Hnd)
Mohammed GARGO (Gha)
Giuseppe GEMITI (Ger)
Regis Herve GENAUX (Blg)
Per KROLDRUP (Den)
Thomas MANFREDINI
Mirko PIERI
Nestor SENSINI (Arg)
Andrea SOTTIL

MIDFIELDERS
Sergio Bernardo ALMIRON (Arg)
Maurizio BEDIN
Patrick BENEFORTI (Fra)
Marek JANKULOVSKI (Cze)
Martin JORGENSEN (Den)
Gonzalo MARTINEZ (Col)
Giampiero PINZI
David PIZARRO (Chl)

FORWARDS
David DI MICHELE
Vincenzo IAQUINTA
Carsten JANCKER (Ger)
Feliciano MAGRO
Roberto MUZZI
Siyabonga NOMVETE (SAf)
WARLEY (Bra)

COACH
Luciano SPALLETTI

OUT: Turci (Sampdoria); Molinari; Zamboni (Modena); D'Imporzano (Ancona); Esposito (Cagliari); Parks (Ascoli); Scarlato (Torino); Sosa (Boca Juniors); Helguera (Alaves)

THE NEW SEASON IN EUROPE

ITALY FIXTURES

SUN, SEPTEMBER 1, 2002
Atalanta v Modena
Chievo v Perugia
Empoli v Inter
Milan v Udinese
Parma v Brescia
Piacenza v Juventus
Reggina v Lazio
Roma v Como
Torino v Bologna

SUN, SEPTEMBER 15
Bologna v Roma
Brescia v Piacenza
Como v Empoli
Inter v Torino
Juventus v Atalanta
Lazio v Chievo
Modena v Milan
Perugia v Reggina
Udinese v Parma

SUN, SEPTEMBER 22
Atalanta v Bologna
Chievo v Brescia
Empoli v Juventus
Milan v Perugia
Parma v Como
Piacenza v Udinese
Reggina v Inter
Roma v Modena
Torino v Lazio

SUN, SEPTEMBER 29
Bologna v Piacenza
Brescia v Roma
Como v Reggina
Inter v Chievo
Juventus v Parma
Lazio v Milan
Modena v Torino
Perugia v Empoli
Udinese v Atalanta

SUN, OCTOBER 6
Atalanta v Lazio
Chievo v Modena
Empoli v Bologna
Juventus v Como
Milan v Torino
Parma v Perugia
Piacenza v Inter
Reggina v Brescia
Roma v Udinese

SUN, OCTOBER 20
Atalanta v Milan
Bologna v Brescia
Como v Piacenza
Empoli v Roma
Inter v Juventus
Lazio v Perugia
Modena v Parma
Torino v Chievo
Udinese v Reggina

SUN, OCTOBER 27
Brescia v Como
Chievo v Milan
Inter v Bologna
Juventus v Udinese
Lazio v Roma
Parma v Atalanta
Perugia v Modena
Piacenza v Empoli
Reggina v Torino

SUN, NOVEMBER 3
Atalanta v Piacenza
Como v Inter
Empoli v Lazio
Milan v Reggina
Modena v Juventus
Parma v Chievo
Roma v Perugia
Torino v Brescia
Udinese v Bologna

SUN, NOVEMBER 10
Bologna v Como
Brescia v Empoli
Chievo v Atalanta
Inter v Udinese
Juventus v Milan
Lazio v Parma
Perugia v Torino
Piacenza v Roma
Reggina v Modena

SUN, NOVEMBER 17
Atalanta v Brescia
Bologna v Perugia
Como v Lazio
Empoli v Reggina
Milan v Parma
Modena v Piacenza
Roma v Inter
Torino v Juventus
Udinese v Chievo

SUN, NOVEMBER 24
Brescia v Udinese
Chievo v Empoli
Juventus v Bologna
Lazio v Modena
Milan v Inter
Parma v Roma
Perugia v Como
Piacenza v Torino
Reggina v Atalanta

SUN, DECEMBER 1
Atalanta v Perugia
Bologna v Modena
Como v Udinese
Empoli v Milan
Inter v Brescia
Piacenza v Lazio
Reggina v Chievo
Roma v Juventus
Torino v Parma

SUN, DECEMBER 8
Brescia v Juventus
Chievo v Bologna
Lazio v Inter
Milan v Roma
Modena v Como
Parma v Reggina
Perugia v Piacenza
Torino v Atalanta
Udinese v Empoli

THU, DECEMBER 19
Bologna v Parma
Brescia v Perugia
Como v Milan
Empoli v Modena
Inter v Atalanta
Juventus v Lazio
Piacenza v Chievo
Roma v Reggina
Udinese v Torino

SUN, DECEMBER 22
Atalanta v Empoli
Chievo v Como
Lazio v Bologna
Milan v Brescia
Modena v Udinese
Parma v Inter
Perugia v Juventus
Reggina v Piacenza
Torino v Roma

SUN, JANUARY 12, 2003
Bologna v Milan
Brescia v Lazio
Como v Atalanta
Empoli v Torino
Inter v Modena
Juventus v Reggina
Piacenza v Parma
Roma v Chievo
Udinese v Perugia

SUN, JANUARY 19
Atalanta v Roma
Chievo v Juventus
Lazio v Udinese
Milan v Piacenza
Modena v Brescia
Parma v Empoli
Perugia v Inter
Reggina v Bologna
Torino v Como

SUN, JANUARY 26
Modena v Atalanta
Perugia v Chievo
Inter v Empoli
Udinese v Milan
Brescia v Parma
Juventus v Piacenza
Lazio v Reggina
Como v Roma
Bologna v Torino

SUN, FEBRUARY 2
Roma v Bologna
Piacenza v Brescia
Empoli v Como
Torino v Inter
Atalanta v Juventus
Chievo v Lazio
Milan v Modena
Reggina v Perugia
Parma v Udinese

SUN, FEBRUARY 9
Bologna v Atalanta
Brescia v Chievo
Juventus v Empoli
Perugia v Milan
Como v Parma
Udinese v Piacenza
Inter v Reggina
Modena v Roma
Lazio v Torino

SUN, FEBRUARY 16
Piacenza v Bologna
Roma v Brescia
Reggina v Como
Chievo v Inter
Parma v Juventus
Milan v Lazio
Torino v Modena
Empoli v Perugia
Atalanta v Udinese

SUN, FEBRUARY 23
Lazio v Atalanta
Modena v Chievo
Bologna v Empoli
Como v Juventus
Torino v Milan
Perugia v Parma
Inter v Piacenza
Brescia v Reggina
Udinese v Roma

SUN, MARCH 2
Milan v Atalanta
Brescia v Bologna
Piacenza v Como
Roma v Empoli
Juventus v Inter
Perugia v Lazio
Parma v Modena
Chievo v Torino
Reggina v Udinese

SUN, MARCH 9
Como v Brescia
Milan v Chievo
Bologna v Inter
Udinese v Juventus
Roma v Lazio
Atalanta v Parma
Modena v Perugia
Empoli v Piacenza
Torino v Reggina

SUN, MARCH 16
Piacenza v Atalanta
Inter v Como
Lazio v Empoli
Reggina v Milan
Juventus v Modena
Chievo v Parma
Perugia v Roma
Brescia v Torino
Bologna v Udinese

SUN, MARCH 23
Como v Bologna
Empoli v Brescia
Atalanta v Chievo
Udinese v Inter
Milan v Juventus
Parma v Lazio
Torino v Perugia
Roma v Piacenza
Modena v Reggina

SUN, APRIL 6
Brescia v Atalanta
Perugia v Bologna
Lazio v Como
Reggina v Empoli
Parma v Milan
Piacenza v Modena
Inter v Roma
Juventus v Torino
Chievo v Udinese

SUN, APRIL 13
Udinese v Brescia
Empoli v Chievo
Bologna v Juventus
Modena v Lazio
Inter v Milan
Roma v Parma
Como v Perugia
Torino v Piacenza
Atalanta v Reggina

SAT, APRIL 19
Perugia v Atalanta
Modena v Bologna
Udinese v Como
Milan v Empoli
Brescia v Inter
Lazio v Piacenza
Chievo v Reggina
Juventus v Roma
Parma v Torino

SUN, APRIL 27
Juventus v Brescia
Bologna v Chievo
Inter v Lazio
Roma v Milan
Como v Modena
Reggina v Parma
Piacenza v Perugia
Atalanta v Torino
Empoli v Udinese

SUN, MAY 4

Parma v Bologna
Perugia v Brescia
Milan v Como
Modena v Empoli
Atalanta v Inter
Lazio v Juventus
Chievo v Piacenza
Reggina v Roma
Torino v Udinese

SUN, MAY 11

Empoli v Atalanta
Como v Chievo
Bologna v Lazio
Brescia v Milan
Udinese v Modena
Inter v Parma
Juventus v Perugia
Piacenza v Reggina
Roma v Torino

SUN, MAY 18

Milan v Bologna
Lazio v Brescia
Atalanta v Como
Torino v Empoli
Modena v Inter
Reggina v Juventus
Parma v Piacenza
Chievo v Roma
Perugia v Udinese

SUN, MAY 25

Roma v Atalanta
Juventus v Chievo
Udinese v Lazio
Piacenza v Milan
Brescia v Modena
Empoli v Parma
Inter v Perugia
Bologna v Reggina
Como v Torino

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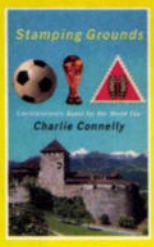

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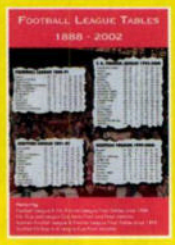

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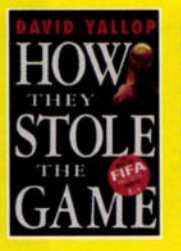

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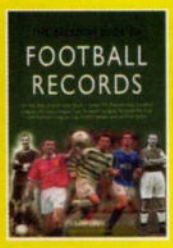

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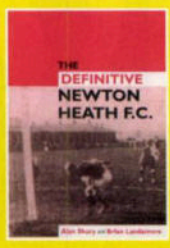

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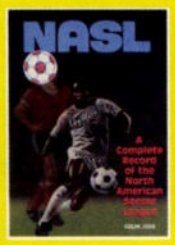

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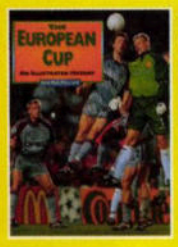

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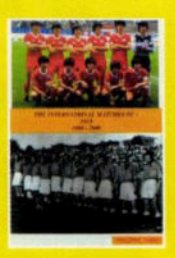

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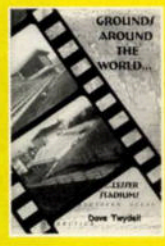

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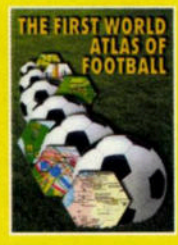

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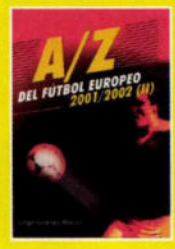

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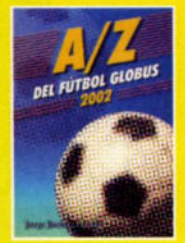

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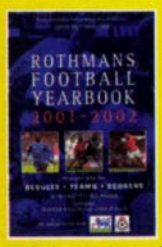

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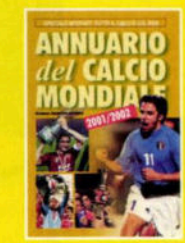

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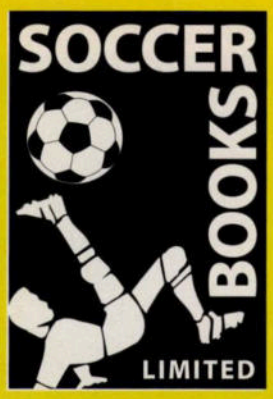

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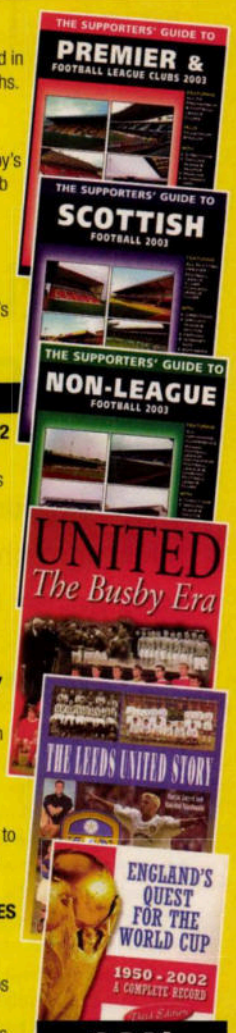

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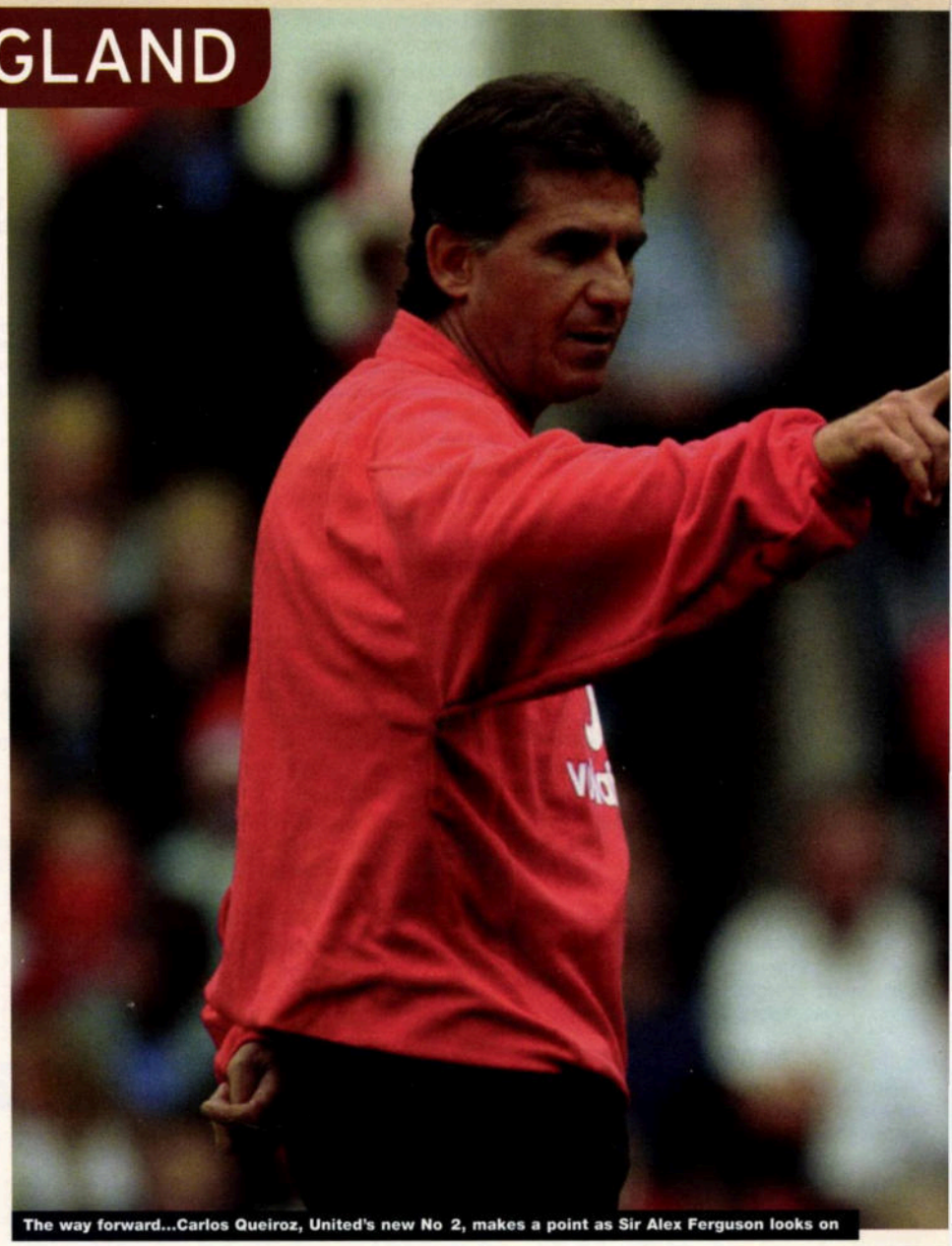
ENGLAND

Starting from scratch

Keir Radnedge on the backroom changes at Manchester United



The way forward...Carlos Queiroz, United's new No 2, makes a point as Sir Alex Ferguson looks on

SIR ALEX FERGUSON is making a new start – some achievement for a 60-year-old who has won everything there is to win in club football.

Yet this time last year he was preparing to devote himself to his other sporting passion, racing, and ride off into the football sunset.

It was to be one of those seasons in which Manchester United won not only everything but secured Ferguson the ultimate legendary status by retiring on the back of winning the Champions League Final in his native Glasgow.

Instead – nothing. Not one trophy. Not even a final. But also no retirement either.

So Ferguson is back at full speed with a clean sheet and three significant new signings. The most important, however, may not prove to be England defender Rio Ferdinand but coaches Carlos Queiroz and Francisco Filho.

Players come and go, but coaches, particularly behind the scenes, wield an influence that can stretch down the years. United have achieved success with a delicate mixture of big-money buys and home-grown talent.

To maintain that balance is what Queiroz and Filho are all about. Their arrivals, plus the confirmation of Brian McClair as reserve team manager, are structural changes that, Ferguson hopes, will inspire his players into regaining their hunger for success.

He has suggested that his players' appetite faded last season after several secured multi-million contract extensions. He expects the goad of last season's empty memories – for the England players add in a failure to do themselves justice at the World Cup – to provoke a winning aggression.

Simultaneously, removing the 'retirement' cloud has also cleared his own horizon.

At least there can be no more carping about the extent to which his own ambitions are underpinned by his directors. That old chestnut has been buried by the British record £30 million purchase of Ferdinand from Leeds – though even United, the richest club in the world, could not afford to pay it in one lump sum. They paid half up front and pass over the remainder next summer. United will also pay Leeds an extra £4m depending on their success this season.

Ferguson had been trying to sign Ferdinand for six years. He made his first offer when the player, then 17, was on loan from West Ham to lower division Bournemouth. West Ham said no. Two years ago, they sold Ferdinand to Leeds for a British domestic record fee of £18m.

Ferguson tried to buy Ferdinand before the World Cup. Leeds said no. United tried again, and Leeds said no for a second time. Then Ferdinand returned from the World Cup and asked for a transfer. At this point Leeds chairman Peter Ridsdale realised the game was up. As he said: "A profit of £12m on a player over two years is good business."

September 14, when Ferguson takes United and Ferdinand, injury permitting, back to Elland Road will be a first fascinating test of the player's mettle and, by inference, the manager's judgment. But that judgment is also being tested behind the scenes, on a level largely tucked away from the television and tabloid focus that accompanies United everywhere.

Filho takes over as under-17s coach with an exotic curriculum vitae. He may be Brazilian but his expertise has been honed over the past 29 years at the French federation's academy at Clairefontaine. How United learned about him remains uncertain but it may not be insignificant that his pupils include Jean-Pierre Papin, once an outside tip for a coaching role at Old Trafford himself.

Even more important, however, was the World Cup-enshrouded signing of Queiroz as assistant manager. One allegation last season was that Ferguson's approaching retirement had inhibited United from signing an effective No 2 (to succeed Middlesbrough-bound Steve McClaren) since any new man could not be guaranteed a job for more than 12 months. That uncertainty has been removed.

Queiroz made his name as coach of Portugal's 'golden generation' squad – Luis Figo, Rui Costa, Joao Pinto, etc – who won the World Youth Cup twice in 1989 and 1991. He was born in Nampula, Mozambique, in 1953 but moved to Portugal after independence in the mid-1970s. After an undistinguished playing career he rose through the ranks of management, culminating in the Youth Cup successes.

Inevitably, Queiroz took over the senior team in 1991, but failure to qualify for the 1994 World Cup finals sparked his move into high-level club management with Sporting Lisbon. He also then coached in the United Arab Emirates and at New York/New Jersey MetroStars in the United States and Grampus Eight in Japan before arriving in South Africa in the summer of 2000.

He succeeded in guiding Bafana Bafana to the World Cup finals but then found himself on the wrong side of a political wrangle after a disappointing African Nations Cup campaign at the beginning of this year.

South Africa were eliminated in the quarter-finals by hosts Mali and Queiroz was accused of favouritism towards European-based players. His position was further undermined by the confirmation as technical director of Jomo Sono, and he quit in March with a patchy record of nine wins, seven draws and five defeats.

Queiroz was immediately linked with the manager's job at Benfica and some undefined senior post within the Portuguese federation. But he was not in a hurry – and was delighted to have been still available when United came looking for a successor to Archie Knox, Brian Kidd, McClaren and Jim Ryan.

Everyone has said all the right things so far, starting with Queiroz talking about the "great privilege" of joining United and how "proud and honoured" he felt in being entrusted with the job by "one of the world's leading managers".

Ferguson reciprocated by describing Queiroz as "an unknown quantity to a lot of people but not to me or many others whose business it is to know what is happening in world football".

He added: "Carlos is an innovative coach who will come in and challenge the players."

A long-term appointment, then, but with short-term pressures and no time to adjust to the change in football cultures. A tough test indeed for the new men – both on and off the pitch. United fans, after all, will not be happy if the Old Trafford Theatre of Dreams witnesses another blank season.

SIR ALEX SAYS ...

"I expect all the players to be fully focused this time around. If they thought they could win the League in second gear, then they found out last year that they can't.

"The signing of new contracts relaxed a few of them. That was one factor. Secondly, I maybe shouldn't have announced my retirement, and that definitely had an effect on some of them, particularly when they weren't playing well.

"People generally like to be in the comfort zone. The players were thinking they'd have a new manager the next year anyway. That can relax people, and it was the relaxation in their minds that maybe cost us individual mistakes.

"When you get a lift in salary it just relaxes you for a moment. You say: 'The future's not so bad now. I can see my pension better.' You can see a lot of things because of money but it can be just enough to take you off track a little bit.

"When they started losing games, it registered with them, and they didn't enjoy that. They would rather give up the money for points but by then it was too late.

"Whether there has been a power shift [to Arsenal] can only be proved this season. Does a shift in power mean one season? I'm not so sure. But there are easy targets for us to go for this season. We'll not lose six games at home like we did in the League last season. In those six games we scored one goal. That won't happen again. That makes a hell of a difference.

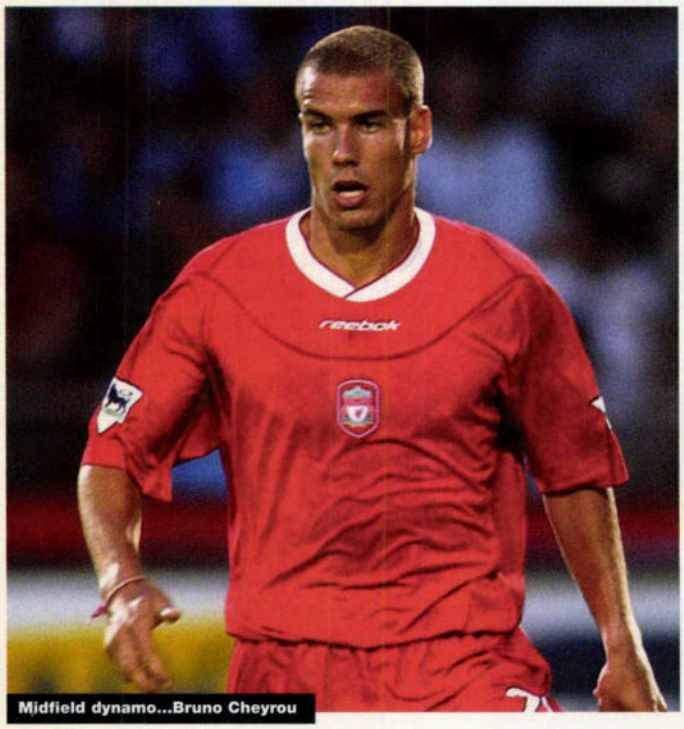
"There is always pressure in this job, but it's how you handle it and what you do about it that counts. The reaction we've shown down the years has always been a positive one. That's why I have every confidence in the players' ability to come back this season.

"Our new coach, Carlos Queiroz, will certainly help, and getting Rio Ferdinand will be a major boost. The strength of the midfield positions will be easier to handle. Last year there was a lot of experimenting, but we'll be a lot more settled, and I fully expect us to get back to our best.

"As for Roy Keane, his problems with the Republic of Ireland will have a positive effect for us, if anything. If you watch him in training, even if Keane cannot possibly get the ball he still shouts for it. He still has that unbelievable energy. He's incredible, the best player I've ever had."

Keep an eye on...

Nick Bidwell picks the brightest new arrivals in the Premier League


Midfield dynamo...Bruno Cheyrou

Bruno Cheyrou

Club Liverpool
Country France
Born May 10 ,1978, in Suresnes
Signed from Lille

New France boss Jacques Santini obviously thinks highly of Bruno Cheyrou, the midfielder who swapped Lille for Liverpool this summer in a £3.7million deal.

It usually takes a lot for the taciturn Santini to wax lyrical about a player. Yet when asked why the 24-year-old had been handed his first call-up to the French squad, the coach was uncharacteristically enthusiastic.

"Bruno Cheyrou has the look of a Jean Tigana," gushed Santini. "He has been in excellent form for Lille over a long period, and I have to be interested in such players."

After serving a rather nondescript apprenticeship with Racing Paris and Lens, Cheyrou's career took off after joining Lille in 1997. He had been a utility player, as likely to fill in in attack as central defence. However, Lille coach Vahid Halilhodzic thought he would be better employed on the left of midfield. How well the switch worked, with Cheyrou's dynamism and wonderful left foot proving a key ingredient as Lille won the Second Division title in 2000 and qualified for the Champions League a year later.

Cheyrou was outstanding last season, too, suddenly developing into a fully fledged marksman. Previously, he had averaged just five goals per season, but thanks largely to his powerful shooting from free-kicks and open play, he ended 2001-02 as Lille's top scorer with 11 goals.

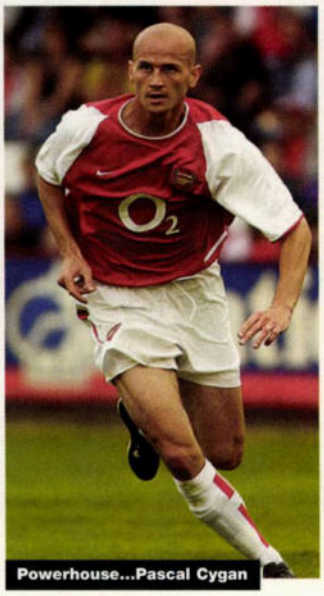
Despite his considerable success on the left at Lille, Cheyrou maintains he would be more effective in central midfield. "I'm not really a player who breaks down the wing and puts in crosses," he says. "I prefer to play inside and have a lot more of the ball."

Liverpool manager Gerard Houllier has all the midfield options he needs in Bruno Cheyrou.

Bulent Akin

Club Bolton Wanderers
Country Turkey
Born August 28, 1978
Signed from Galatasaray

Talented left-sided midfielder who was bought from Gala despite not yet being fully recovered from a cruciate ligament injury. Belgium-born and came through the Anderlecht youth team before moving to Genclerbirligi and Denizlispor.


Powerhouse...Pascal Cygan

Pascal Cygan

Club Arsenal
Country France
Born April 29, 1974, in Lens
Signed from Lille

One of the best uncapped French players around, he had been itching to quit Lille for a year. His patience was rewarded with a move to champions Arsenal. A powerful, uncompromising centre-back, and a bargain at £1.4m.

Enrique De Lucas

Club Chelsea
Country Spain
Born August 17, 1978, in Barcelona
Signed from Espanyol

Purposeful...Enrique De Lucas

Quick and purposeful midfielder with an eye for goal. The former Spanish Under-21 arrived at Chelsea on a free.

Stefan Postma

Club Aston Villa
Country Holland
Born October 6, 1976, in Utrecht
Signed from De Graafschap

Accomplished Dutch keeper signed by Villa for £1.5m. Imposing and athletic, he will battle for the number one spot with Finn Peter Enckelman.

Facundo Sava

Club Fulham
Country Argentina
Born March 7, 1974, in Ituzaingo
Signed from Gimnasia y Esgrima La Plata

Argentinian striker who hit 50 goals in three seasons. Willing and strong in the air, Sava is known as 'Colorado' due to his frequent changes of hair colour.

Joseph Yobo

Club Everton
Country Nigeria
Born September 6, 1980, in Kano
Signed from Marseille

Fine young Nigerian prospect who can play anywhere in defence. Ever-present at World Cup 2002 and a rare success at underachieving Marseille last term.

The summer's key moves

Rio Ferdinand
Leeds to Manchester United. Commanded by far the biggest fee of the summer, £30million. United get England's best defender at the World Cup, Leeds clear a large chunk of their debt mountain.

Killer instinct...El Hadji Diouf

El Hadji Diouf
Lens to Liverpool. The reigning African Footballer of the Year and the man dubbed 'serial killer' for his goalscoring instincts.

Massimo Maccarone
Empoli to Middlesbrough. Italian Under-21 striker whose goals helped Empoli win promotion to Serie A last season. That Boro were able to capture him ahead of bigger Serie A clubs speaks volumes for the depressed state of Italian club finances.

Hugo Viana
Sporting Lisbon to Newcastle. Bobby Robson beat a host of other clubs to sign the Portuguese starlet, who had a spectacular first season in 2001-02, culminating in his country's ill-fated trip to the World Cup.

Gilberto Silva
Atletico Mineiro to Arsenal. A strange buy by Arsenal, who usually monitor their purchases for months before doing a deal. But the Brazilian midfielder's performances at the World Cup were enough to persuade Arsene Wenger to act.

Dwight Yorke
Manchester United to Blackburn. Yorke, an outcast at Old Trafford, where the tabloids' interest in his love life was not appreciated, has been reunited with former United strike partner Andy Cole

Junichi Inamoto
Gamba Osaka to Fulham (loan). Last season, Inamoto barely featured at Arsenal and was cruelly dubbed "T-shirt" by fans who saw him as a commercial not footballing signing. But after a terrific World Cup, the combative midfielder has already made his mark at Fulham, scoring a splendid solo goal in the InterToto Cup

Nicolas Anelka
Paris Saint-Germain to Manchester City. The second biggest fee of the summer, £13million, and a fifth club in four seasons for Anelka.

Juninho
Atletico Madrid to Middlesbrough. Back on Teesside again after a dispute over wages, but it's already third time unlucky for the Brazilian, who damaged knee ligaments in a pre-season friendly.

Spectacular season...Hugo Viana

Players to watch

Wayne Rooney, EVERTON
Only 16, but already the hype is at fever pitch, with Everton deputy chairman Bill Kenwright saying Rooney is "the greatest thing around in football". Rooney's performances in the European Under-17 Championship and FA Youth Cup suggest Kenwright could be right.

John O'Shea, MANCHESTER UTD
Already capped by the Republic of Ireland, he is seen as the next big thing by United. Faces a battle with Wes Brown to succeed Laurent Blanc as the long-term defensive partner of Rio Ferdinand.

Jermaine Defoe, WEST HAM
A finisher in the Owen mould. Could be given his chance with the senior England side this season.

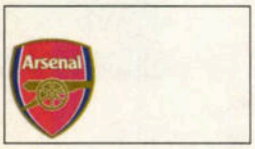
Jermaine Pennant, ARSENAL
Hugely talented right-winger or attacking midfielder with great pace and impressive ball skills. Aiming for some first-team action.

Sweet 16...Rooney

Carlton Cole, CHELSEA
England Under-19 striker who scored with his first touch on his debut for Chelsea at Middlesbrough last season. Set to play a bigger role this term, especially with the Chelsea futures of Hasselbaink and Gudjohnsen uncertain.

Arsenal's biggest test

The Champions League is the key to Wenger's season, says Gavin Hamilton



Arsenal

There's no reason why Arsenal cannot carry on where they left off last season. In come central defender Pascal Cygan, World Cup-winning midfielder Gilberto Silva and keeper Fabian Carini. Out go Richard Wright, Lee Dixon and, most significantly, Tony Adams. How the Gunners cope with the retirement of Adams, such an influential figure over almost two decades, will help determine whether there has been a real power shift from Manchester to London. It's undoubtedly a stronger squad than last season: Gilberto Silva's arrival will allow captain Patrick Vieira to venture forward more often, while Arsene Wenger insists Cygan will break into the French national side. A top-three finish is the minimum expectation, but success in the knockout stages of the Champions League will be the real test of Arsenal's season.

Aston Villa

With George Boateng sold to Middlesbrough, Paul Merson offloaded to Portsmouth and Peter Schmeichel back in Manchester (City, that is), Graham Taylor is starting to make his mark on Villa Park in his second spell at the club. New signings have been canny – Ecuador midfielder Ulises De la Cruz, Dutch keeper Stefan Postma and Swedish striker Marcus Allback – rather than inspiring. With Turkish World Cup defender Alpay voicing concerns about Villa's ambitions, and the team already dumped out of the InterToto Cup by Lille, it could be a difficult campaign.

Birmingham

Promoted through the play-offs and back in the top flight for the first time since 1986. Steve Bruce, the former Manchester United defender, is a controversial figure, having already walked out on Sheffield United, Wigan and Crystal Palace in his short managerial career. But he has spent well enough – signing battlers Robbie Savage and Kenny Cunningham, as well as Senegal's World Cup captain Aliou Cisse and young livewire striker Clinton Morrison – to suggest they can beat the drop.

Blackburn

Manager Graeme Souness made extra firepower his pre-season priority by reuniting Dwight Yorke with his former Manchester United strike partner Andy Cole. But holding on to the hugely talented Damien Duff could be the key to building on last season's League Cup victory with further success this term. If Duff and the equally talented David Dunn stay, Blackburn could be the season's surprise package.

Bolton

Manager Sam Allardyce has again been busy in the overseas transfer market, snapping up adventurous deals as he bids to defy the odds again. Youri Djorkaeff, so influential in helping beat the drop last season, has made his loan move

Battling Blue...Robbie Savage

permanent. He's been joined by Jay-Jay Okocha, Bernard Mendy and Bulent Akin. Bolton say they prefer to do deals with continental clubs, who will accept payment in instalments. The pay-as-you-play policy should be enough to see them stay up.

Charlton

Another quiet summer in South London – manager Alan Curbishley has brought in only Chris Bart-Williams, Paul Rachubka and Gary Rowett. Survival remains the name of the game, but the squad is a little on the light side. Curbishley is still the club's biggest asset, but a lack of firepower could see them drawn into a relegation dogfight.

Chelsea

Difficult times at Stamford Bridge, where another failure to qualify for the Champions League has led to doubts about the long-term viability of the costly Chelsea Village property development. Coach Claudio Ranieri complained about the lack of money for new signings. He brought in Spaniard Enrique De Lucas but has lost Sam Dalla Bona, for just £1million to Milan, and further sales seem inevitable. Ranieri has a long-term plan, and may have to call upon youth-team proteges, led by prolific striker Carlton Cole, earlier than expected.

Everton

Everton remain the poor relations on Merseyside despite ambitious expansion plans that include a new stadium in Liverpool docks. At Preston, David Moyes earned a reputation as one of the brightest young managers around. And if the crowd stays off his back, he may get the most from new signings Richard Wright, hungry after a year on the sidelines at Highbury, Joseph Yobo and Juliano Rodrigo. But he needs Duncan Ferguson to stay fit, while Chinese additions Li Tie and Li Weifeng could be more effective in marketing terms than on the pitch. Teenage striker Wayne Rooney is the latest to be touted as Everton's Michael Owen.

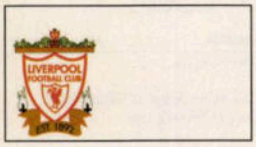
Fulham

Mohammed Al-Fayed continues to flash the cash on players, but events off the pitch could prove more decisive. Former Milan defender Franco Baresi was a surprise summer appointment as technical director, strengthening the belief that he could be used to edge out coach Jean Tigana if Fulham start this campaign as badly as they finished the last. All home matches will be played at QPR, while doubts have surfaced as to whether Craven Cottage will be redeveloped into the proposed 40,000 superstadium after all. Japan World Cup star Junichi Inamoto is likely to be given the chances he did not get at Arsenal, but Fulham need a cutting edge to capitalise on their pleasant approach play.

Leeds

Will the brutal sacking of David O'Leary and his replacement by Terry Venables prove a

masterstroke or a wild gamble? Despite the sale of Rio Ferdinand to Manchester United, Leeds still have financial concerns after spending £90m on players in three seasons in a bid for the big time. Venables made former charge Nick Barmby his first signing, from Liverpool, but he will probably have to sell again before adding to the squad. Leeds still have an enviable crop of young players, so Venables will probably never have a better chance to win his first League title.



Liverpool

The summer signing of El Hadji Diouf, Salif Diao and Bruno Cheyrou strengthened Anfield's French connection, though Nicolas Anelka was sent packing. Both Diao, a Patrick Vieira clone, and Cheyrou will add an extra dimension to midfield, and they are no doubt contenders for starting places. But Liverpool are too reliant on the injury-prone Michael Owen and Steven Gerrard for comfort, while the continuing lack of width remains a concern. However, the return of Markus Babbel from serious illness is a major boost.

Manchester City

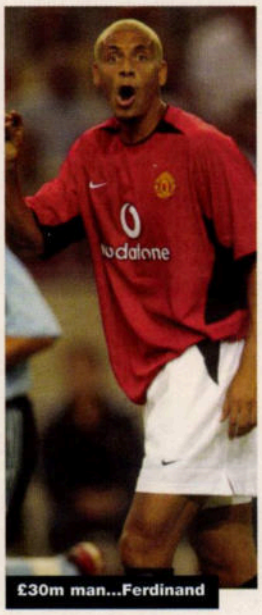
The runaway Division One champions are back in the top flight, boosted by a summer spending spree. Some of Kevin Keegan's signings (Marc-Vivien Foe, Peter Schmeichel) look inspired, others (Nicolas Anelka) look like major gambles. With Keegan, nothing can be taken for granted, so don't be surprised if he repeats his Newcastle antics in the North-west. Then again…

Manchester United

Rio Ferdinand was the headline-grabbing signing of the summer, while major behind-the-scenes upheavals went virtually unnoticed. Portuguese coach Carlos Queiroz heads up a backroom staff that has been completely overhauled. And with six players shown the door – including Dwight Yorke, Denis Irwin and Ronny Johnsen – the message from Alex Ferguson is clear: we're leaner, meaner and hungrier than last season. But problems remain: the defensive partnership of Ferdinand and Laurent Blanc will need time to gel; Ferguson must still choose two from the central midfield quartet of Veron, Scholes, Butt and Keane; and he looks short of firepower, having been told he must sell before buying another striker.

Middlesbrough

One of the summer's biggest spenders. The calibre of the signings – Juninho (after initial disputes over contracts), Geremi, Boateng, Maccarone – suggests that Boro may finally have the quality to rise above the frustratingly average sides of recent seasons. With a solid defence built around Gareth Southgate, a UEFA Cup place is the obvious target.



£30m man...Ferdinand

Newcastle

Invigorated by septuagenarian Bobby Robson, Newcastle gave Arsenal, Liverpool and Man United a run for their money last season. If Kieron Dyer and Alan Shearer can stay fit, a repeat is on the cards. Shearer's predatory instincts and the pace of Dyer, Craig Bellamy, Nolberto Solano and Laurent Robert should trouble defences at home and abroad; the arrival of Portuguese starlet Hugo Viana is intriguing. But will a defence reinforced by Titus Bramble cope with campaigns on both fronts?

Southampton

Another season of solid, unspectacular struggle. Swedish defender Michael Svensson was the only new arrival, joining namesake Anders in a side that will probably grind out enough results to stay up – just.

Sunderland

A rocky road ahead after a barren summer in the transfer market. Phil Babb and Thomas Myhre were the best manager Peter Reid could come up with. Looking at a relegation battle.

Tottenham

It is hard to see Tottenham challenging for the top six on the basis of the summer's signings, headed by Slovenian midfielder Milenko Acimovic and injury-prone Jamie Redknapp, both frees. There's plenty of youthful potential at White Hart Lane – Ledley King, Anthony Gardner, Simon Davies – but manager Glenn Hoddle desperately needs to sign a striker to replace the confidence-sapped Serhii Rebrov. Summer talk of signing Rivaldo was highly fanciful and fooled no one.

Sunderland arrival...Babb

West Brom

Newly promoted but already beset by problems, with the first-team squad taking out an ad in the local paper to complain about their bonus scheme. Add the boardroom squabbles and walkout threats by manager Gary Megson, and it is not a happy ship. Preston captain Sean Gregan was the biggest summer signing. Serious relegation candidates.

West Ham

Unheralded Glenn Roeder confounded the critics in his first season by taking West Ham to a more than respectable seventh-place finish. But with money so tight at Upton Park, a UEFA Cup place may be just beyond them. Roeder has landed free transfer or loan deals – Raimond Van der Gouw, Gary Breen plus French duo Edouard Cisse and Youssef Sofiane. The Hammers will entertain as ever but need more steel away from home, while the youthful trio of Jermaine Defoe, Joe Cole and Michael Carrick must build on their achievements of last term.

THE NEW SEASON IN EUROPE

ENGLAND SQUADS

ARSENAL

GOALKEEPERS
24 Fabian CARINI (Uru)
1 David SEAMAN
13 Stuart TAYLOR

DEFENDERS
23 Sol CAMPBELL
3 Ashley COLE
18 Pascal CYGAN (Fra)
5 Martin KEOWN
12 LAUREN Etame-Mayer (Cam)
22 Oleh LUZHNYI (Ukr)
57 Juan MALDONDO Duarte (Bra)
26 Igor STEPANOVS (Lat)
27 Stathis TAVLARIDIS (Gre)
28 Habib Kolo TOURE (IvC)
20 Matthew UPSON

MIDFIELDERS
30 Jeremie ALIADIERE (Fra)
17 EDU (Bra)
19 GILBERTO SILVA (Bra)
8 Fredrik LJUNGBERG (Swe)
15 Ray PARLOUR
7 Robert PIRES (Fra)
16 Giovanni VAN BRONCKHORST (Hol)
4 Patrick VIEIRA (Fra)
29 Moritz VOLZ (Ger)

FORWARDS
32 Graham BARRETT (Ire)
10 Dennis BERGKAMP (Hol)
14 Thierry HENRY (Fra)
9 Francis JEFFERS
25 Nwankwo KANU (Nig)
21 Jermaine PENNANT
11 Sylvain WILTORD (Fra)

MANAGER
Arsene WENGER (Fra)

OUT: Wright (Everton); Manninger (Espanyol); Dixon, Adams (both retired); Ricketts (Tottenham); Grimandi

ASTON VILLA

GOALKEEPERS
1 Peter ENCKELMAN (Fin)
39 Wayne HENDERSON (Ire)
37 Boaz MYHILL
13 Stefan POSTMA (Hol)

DEFENDERS
5 ALPAY Ozalan (Tur)
6 Gareth BARRY
27 Jonathan BEWERS
2 Mark DELANEY (Wal)
4 Olof MELLBERG (Swe)
21 J Lloyd SAMUEL
11 Steve STAUNTON (Ire)
3 Alan WRIGHT

MIDFIELDERS
29 Stephen COOKE
15 Ulises DE LA CRUZ (Ecu)
20 Mustapha HADJI (Mor)
17 Lee HENDRIE
12 Thomas HITZLSPERGER (Ger)
22 Hassan KACHLOUL (Mor)
28 Gavin MELAUGH (Ire)
18 Steve STONE
7 Ian TAYLOR

FORWARDS
14 Marcus ALLBACK (Swe)
8 Juan Pablo ANGEL (Col)
19 Bosko BALABAN (Cro)
23 Michael BOULDING
16 Peter CROUCH
9 Dion DUBLIN
25 Stefan MOORE
10 Darius VASSELL

MANAGER
Graham TAYLOR

OUT: Schmeichel (Manchester City); Boateng (Middlesbrough); Merson (Portsmouth)

BIRMINGHAM

GOALKEEPERS
32 Neil BARNES
1 Ian BENNETT
29 Clint DAVIS
18 Nico VAESEN (Blg)

DEFENDERS
6 Aliou CISSE (Sen)
12 Kenny CUNNINGHAM (Ire)
21 Nicky EADEN
3 Martin GRAINGER
27 Jonathan HUTCHINSON
17 Michael JOHNSON (Jam)
2 Jeff KENNA (Ire)
5 Darren PURSE
26 Olivier TEBILY (Fra)
35 Steve VICKERS

MIDFIELDERS
24 Darren CARTER
10 Bryan HUGHES
13 Graham HYDE
22 Damien JOHNSON (NI)
11 Stan LAZARIDIS (Aus)
8 Robbie SAVAGE (Wal)
20 Tommy WILLIAMS
28 Curtis WOODHOUSE

FORWARDS
7 Paul DEVLIN
9 Geoff HORSFIELD
14 Stern JOHN (T&T)
16 Tommy MOONEY
19 Clinton MORRISON (Ire)

MANAGER
Steve BRUCE

OUT: McCarthy (released); Adebola (released); Sonner (Walsall); A Johnson (Crystal Palace)

BLACKBURN

GOALKEEPERS
1 Brad FRIEDEL (USA)
13 Alan KELLY (Ire)
27 Alan MILLER

DEFENDERS
25 Henning BERG (Nor)
5 Stig Inge BJORNEBYE (Nor)
17 John CURTIS
30 Gordon GREERS (Sco)
14 Nils-Eric JOHANSSON (Swe)
23 Marc Sebastian PELZER (Ger)
6 Craig SHORT
28 Martin TAYLOR
4 Andy TODD

MIDFIELDERS
29 Jonathan DOUGLAS
8 David DUNN
24 Darren DUNNING
7 Garry FLITCROFT
18 Keith GILLESPIE (NI)
20 HAKAN Unsal (Tur)
15 Craig HIGNETT
16 Alan MAHON (Ire)
2 Lucas NEILL (Aus)
34 Marc RICHARDS
3 TUGAY Kerimoglu (Tur)

FORWARDS
9 Andy COLE
11 Damien DUFF (Ire)
10 Matt JANSEN
22 Egil OSTENSTAD (Nor)
19 Dwight YORKE (T&T)

MANAGER
Graeme SOUNESS (Sco)

OUT: Thomas (Swansea); Hughes (released); Grayson (Blackpool)

BOLTON

GOALKEEPERS
1 Steve BANKS
Sebastien CHABBART (Fra)
22 Jussi JAASKELAINEN (Fin)

DEFENDERS
24 Anthony BARNESS
4 Gudni BERGSSON (Ice)
25 Simon CHARLTON
5 Colin HENDRY (Sco)
37 Nicky HUNT
Bernard MENDY (Fra)
2 Bruno N'GOTTY (Fra)
26 Leam RICHARDSON
3 Mike WHITLOW

MIDFIELDERS
BULENT Akin (Tur)
14 Gareth FARRELLY (Ire)
Gerald FORSCHELFT (Fra)
8 Per FRANDSEN (Den)
11 Ricardo GARDNER (Jam)
28 Jermaine JOHNSON (Jam)
15 Kevin NOLAN
Jay-Jay OKOCHA (Nig)
32 Jeff SMITH
20 Nicky SOUTHALL
29 Stig TOFTING (Den)
6 Paul WARHURST

FORWARDS
33 Ryan BALDACCHINO
13 Youri DJORKAEFF (Fra)
40 Chris DOWNEY
Delroy FACEY
7 Bo HANSEN (Den)
10 Dean HOLDSWORTH
17 Michael RICKETTS

MANAGER
Sam ALLARDYCE

OUT: Wallace (Gillingham); Holden (Oldham); Pedersen (Silkeborg, loan)

CHARLTON

GOALKEEPERS
1 Dean KIELY (Ire)
13 ***Paul RACHUBKA***
22 Ben ROBERTS

DEFENDERS
12 Steve BROWN
15 Mark FISH (SAf)
24 Jonathan FORTUNE
2 Radostin KISHISHEV (Bul)
18 Paul KONCHESKY
3 Chris POWELL
6 ***Gary ROWETT***
5 Richard RUFUS
19 Luke YOUNG

MIDFIELDERS
16 ***Chris BART-WILLIAMS***
10 Claus JENSEN (Den)
8 Mark KINSELLA (Ire)
7 Scott PARKER
11 John ROBINSON (Wal)
4 Graham STUART

FORWARDS
17 Shaun BARTLETT (SAf)
9 Jason EUELL
21 Jonatan JOHANSSON (Fin)
23 Kevin LISBIE
14 Martin PRINGLE (Swe)
20 Mathias SVENSSON (Swe)

MANAGER
Alan CURBISHLEY

OUT: Shields (Kilmarnock); Youds (Huddersfield); Todd (Blackburn)

CHELSEA

GOALKEEPERS
31 Mark BOSNICH (Aus)
23 Carlo CUDICINI (Ita)
1 Ed DE GOEY (Hol)

DEFENDERS
3 Celestine BABAYARO (Nig)
7 Winston BOGARDE (Hol)
6 Marcel DESAILLY (Fra)
19 Valerio DI CESARE (Ita)
18 Albert FERRER (Spa)
13 William GALLAS (Fra)
29 Robert HUTH
33 Joel KITAMIRIKE
14 Graeme LE SAUX
15 Mario MELCHIOT (Hol)
26 John TERRY

MIDFIELDERS
21 ***Enrique DE LUCAS (Spa)***
30 Jesper GRONKJAER (Den)
36 Joe KEENAN
8 Frank LAMPARD
20 Jody MORRIS
17 Emmanuel PETIT (Fra)
37 Danny SLATTER
12 Mario STANIC (Cro)
11 Boudewijn ZENDEN (Hol)

FORWARDS
39 Carlton COLE
32 Mikael FORSSELL (Fin)
22 Eidur GUDJOHNSEN (Ice)
9 Jimmy Floyd HASSELBAINK (Hol)
28 Leon KNIGHT
25 Gianfranco ZOLA (Ita)

MANAGER
Claudio RANIERI (Ita)

OUT: Dalla Bona (Milan); Jokanovic (released)

EVERTON

GOALKEEPERS
35 Paul GERRARD
13 Steve SIMONSEN
1 Richard WRIGHT

DEFENDERS
27 Peter CLARKE
21 LI Weifeng (Chn)
15 Gary NAYSMITH (Sco)
3 Alessandro PISTONE (Ita)
4 Alan STUBBS
6 David UNSWORTH
2 Steve WATSON
5 David WEIR (Sco)
20 Joseph YOBO (Nig)

MIDFIELDERS
7 Niclas ALEXANDERSSON (Swe)
26 Lee CARSLEY (Ire)
17 Scot GEMMILL (Sco)
16 Thomas GRAVESEN (Den)
28 Tony HIBBERT
12 LI Tie (Chn)
22 Tobias LINDEROTH (Swe)
29 Kevin McLEOD
11 Mark PEMBRIDGE (Wal)
14 Idan TAL (Isr)

FORWARDS
9 Kevin CAMPBELL
30 Nick CHADWICK
10 Duncan FERGUSON (Sco)
19 Joe-Max MOORE (USA)
8 Tomasz RADZINSKI (Can)
23 Juliano RODRIGO (Bra)
18 Wayne ROONEY

MANAGER
David MOYES (Sco)

OUT: Nyarko (PSG); Blomqvist, Cleland, Ginola (all released); Valentine (Darlington)

FULHAM

GOALKEEPERS
Martin HERRERA (Arg)
12 Maik TAYLOR (NI)
1 Edwin VAN DER SAR (Hol)

DEFENDERS
3 Rufus BREVETT
5 Chris COLEMAN (Wal)
Martin DJETOU (Fra)
2 Steve FINNAN (Ire)
24 Alain GOMA (Fra)
7 Jon HARLEY
36 Mark HUDSON
16 Zat KNIGHT
Dean LEACOCK
4 Andy MELVILLE (Wal)
25 Abdeslam OUADDOU (Mor)

MIDFIELDERS
8 Lee CLARK
10 John COLLINS (Sco)
23 Sean DAVIS
19 Bjarne GOLDBAEK (Den)
Junichi INAMOTO (Jap)
18 Sylvain LEGWINSKI (Fra)
31 Eddie LEWIS (USA)
14 Steed MALBRANQUE (Fra)
40 Andrej STOLCERS (Lat)
33 Callum WILLOCK

FORWARDS
22 Luis BOA MORTE (Por)
38 Luke CORNWALL
34 Elvis HAMMOND (Gha)
15 Barry HAYLES
9 Steve MARLET (Fra)
20 Louis SAHA (Fra)
Facundo SAVA (Arg)

MANAGER
Jean TIGANA (Fra)

OUT: Trollope (Northampton); Hahnemann (released)

LEEDS

GOALKEEPERS
50 Shaun ALLAWAY
1 Nigel MARTYN
26 Danny MILOSEVIC (Aus)
13 Paul ROBINSON

DEFENDERS
35 Shane CANSDELL-SHERRIFF (Aus)
22 Michael DUBERRY
3 Ian HARTE (Ire)
2 Gary KELLY (Ire)
21 Dominic MATTEO (Sco)
18 Danny MILLS
5 Lucas RADEBE (SAf)
6 Jonathan WOODGATE

MIDFIELDERS
19 Eirik BAKKE (Nor)
12 Nick BARMBY
23 David BATTY
11 Lee BOWYER
25 Jacob BURNS (Aus)
4 Olivier DACOURT (Fra)
20 Seth JOHNSON
28 Jamie McMASTER
14 Stephen McPHAIL (Ire)
Paul OKON (Aus)
32 Harpal SINGH
16 Jason WILCOX

FORWARDS
8 Michael BRIDGES
27 Robbie FOWLER
7 Robbie KEANE (Ire)
10 Harry KEWELL (Aus)
17 Alan SMITH
9 Mark VIDUKA (Aus)

MANAGER
Terry VENABLES

OUT: Ferdinand (Manchester United); Hay (Walsall); Robertson (Montrose)

LIVERPOOL

GOALKEEPERS
19 Pegguy ARPHEXAD (Fra)
1 Jerzy DUDEK (Pol)
22 Chris KIRKLAND
Patrice LUZI (Fra)

DEFENDERS
3 ABEL XAVIER (Por)
6 Markus BABBEL (Ger)
23 Jamie CARRAGHER
14 Vegard HEGGEM (Nor)
2 Stephane HENCHOZ (Swi)
4 Sami HYYPIA (Fin)
30 Djimi TRAORE (Fra)
27 Gregory VIGNAL (Fra)

MIDFIELDERS
15 Patrik BERGER (Cze)
25 Igor BISCAN (Cro)
28 Bruno CHEYROU (Fra)
21 Salif DIAO (Sen)
24 Bernard DIOMEDE (Fra)
17 Steven GERRARD
16 Dietmar HAMANN (Ger)
13 Danny MURPHY
26 Richie PARTRIDGE (Ire)
18 John Arne RIISE (Nor)
34 Daniel SJOLUND (Swe)

FORWARDS
5 Milan BAROS (Cze)
9 El Hadji DIOUF (Sen)
8 Emile HESKEY
37 Jari LITMANEN (Fin)
10 Michael OWEN
7 Vladimir SMICER (Cze)

MANAGER
Gerard HOULLIER (Fra)

OUT: McAllister (Coventry); Kippe (Lillestrom); Barmby (Leeds)

MANCHESTER CITY

GOALKEEPERS
20 Carlo NASH
1 Peter SCHMEICHEL (Den)
12 Nicky WEAVER

DEFENDERS
27 Mikkel BISCHOFF (Den)
31 Laurent CHARVET (Fra)
5 Sylvain DISTIN (Fra)
22 Richard DUNNE (Ire)
15 Alf Inge HAALAND (Nor)
24 Steve HOWEY
28 Tyrone LORAN
25 Lucien METTOMO (Cam)
16 Paul RITCHIE (Sco)
17 SUN Jihai (Chn)
4 Gerard WIEKENS (Hol)

MIDFIELDERS
8 Ali BENARBIA (Alg)
14 Eyal BERKOVIC (Isr)
37 Terry DUNFIELD
23 Marc-Vivien FOE (Cam)
6 Kevin HORLOCK
3 Niclas JENSEN (Den)
13 Christian NEGOUAI (Fra)
40 Chris SHUKER
19 Danny TIATTO (Aus)
29 Shaun WRIGHT-PHILLIPS

FORWARDS
39 Nicolas ANELKA (Fra)
10 Shaun GOATER (Ber)
7 Darren HUCKERBY
11 Jonathon MACKEN
21 Vicente Matias VUOSO (Arg)
9 Paulo WANCHOPE (CR)

MANAGER
Kevin KEEGAN

OUT: Toure (PSG); Mears (Preston); Edghill (out of contract)

MANCHESTER UNITED

GOALKEEPERS
1 Fabien BARTHEZ (Fra)
13 Roy CARROLL (NI)
Luke STEELE

DEFENDERS
5 Laurent BLANC (Fra)
24 Wes BROWN
6 ***Rio FERDINAND***
14 David MAY
2 Gary NEVILLE
12 Philip NEVILLE
22 John O'SHEA (Ire)
34 Lee ROCHE
27 Mickael SILVESTRE (Fra)

MIDFIELDERS
7 David BECKHAM
8 Nicky BUTT
15 Luke CHADWICK
23 Bojan DJORDJIC (Yug)
25 Quinton FORTUNE (SAf)
11 Ryan GIGGS (Wal)
16 Roy KEANE (Ire)
18 Paul SCHOLES
17 Michael STEWART
4 Juan Sebastian VERON (Arg)

FORWARDS
31 Darren FLETCHER
21 Diego FORLAN (Uru)
40 Daniel NARDIELLO
20 Ole Gunnar SOLSKJAER (Nor)
10 Ruud VAN NISTELROOY (Hol)
37 Danny WEBBER

MANAGER
Alex FERGUSON (Sco)

OUT: Van der Gouw (West Ham); Rachubka (Charlton); Irwin (Wolves); Wallwork (West Brom); Johnsen (released); Yorke (Blackburn)

MIDDLESBROUGH

GOALKEEPERS
25 Mark CROSSLEY (Wal)
1 Mark SCHWARZER (Aus)

DEFENDERS
32 Steve BAKER
28 Colin COOPER
17 Ugo EHIOGU
5 Gianluca FESTA (Ita)
29 Jason GAVIN (Ire)
Christian HANSON
37 Franck QUEUDRUE (Fra)
6 Gareth SOUTHGATE
27 Robbie STOCKDALE (Sco)
31 Luke WILKSHIRE

MIDFIELDERS
George BOATENG (Hol)
GEREMI Njitap (Cam)
12 Jonathan GREENING
36 Mark HUDSON
32 Allan JOHNSTON (Sco)
JUNINHO Paulista (Bra)
23 Carlos MARINELLI (Arg)
7 Robbie MUSTOE
30 Stuart PARNABY
24 Phil STAMP
22 Mark SUMMERBELL
21 Mark WILSON

FORWARDS
11 Alen BOKSIC (Cro)
16 Joseph-Desire JOB (Cam)
9 Massimo MACCARONE (Ita)
8 Szilard NEMETH (Slk)
26 Noel WHELAN
20 Dean WINDASS

MANAGER
Steve McCLAREN

OUT: Mickael (released); Ince (Wolves); Ormerod (Doncaster); Gordon (Coventry)

NEWCASTLE

GOALKEEPERS
1 Shay GIVEN (Ire)
13 Steve HARPER
29 John KARELSE (Hol)

DEFENDERS
35 Olivier BERNARD (Fra)
19 Titus BRAMBLE
30 Stephen CALDWELL
34 Nikos DABIZAS (Gre)
3 Robbie ELLIOTT
12 Andrew GRIFFIN
18 Aaron HUGHES (NI)
15 MARCELINO (Spa)
5 Andy O'BRIEN (Ire)
14 Wayne QUINN

MIDFIELDERS
6 Clarence ACUNA (Chl)
10 Christian BASSEDAS (Arg)
8 Kieron DYER
21 Diego GAVILAN (Par)
31 Stuart GREEN
45 HUGO VIANA (Por)
7 Jermaine JENAS
25 Brian KERR (Sco)
22 Jamie McCLEN
4 Nolberto SOLANO (Per)
11 Gary SPEED (Wal)

FORWARDS
23 Shola AMEOBI
10 Craig BELLAMY (Wal)
28 Michael CHOPRA
16 Carl CORT
20 Lomana Tresor LUA LUA (DRC)
32 Laurent ROBERT (Fra)
9 Alan SHEARER

MANAGER
Bobby ROBSON

OUT: G Caldwell (Coventry); Boyd (Port Vale)

SOUTHAMPTON

GOALKEEPERS
1 Paul JONES (Wal)
13 Neil MOSS

DEFENDERS
15 Francis BENALI
3 Wayne BRIDGE
2 Jason DODD
20 Tahar EL KHALEJ (Mor)
5 Claus LUNDEKVAM (Nor)
25 Garry MONK
Michael SVENSSON (Swe)
6 Paul WILLIAMS
Mike WILLIAMSON

MIDFIELDERS
26 Imants BLEIDELIS (Lat)
35 Cleber CHALA (Ecu)
18 Rory DELAP (Ire)
16 Mark DRAPER
29 Fabrice FERNANDEZ
4 Chris MARSDEN
8 Matthew OAKLEY
12 Anders SVENSSON (Swe)
33 Paul TELFER (Sco)
21 Jo TESSEM (Nor)

FORWARDS
9 James BEATTIE
10 Kevin DAVIES
34 Agustin DELGADO (Ecu)
36 Brett ORMEROD
17 Marian PAHARS (Lat)

MANAGER
Gordon STRACHAN (Sco)

OUT: Dani (Walsall); Le Tissier (retired); Petrescu (released)

SUNDERLAND

GOALKEEPERS
13 Michael INGHAM (NI)
Thomas MYHRE (Nor)
1 Thomas SORENSEN (Den)

DEFENDERS
Phil BABB (Ire)
12 Joachim BJORKLUND (Swe)
31 Ben CLARK
17 Jody CRADDOCK
3 Michael GRAY
2 Bernt HAAS (Swi)
25 Mark MALEY
24 George McCARTNEY (NI)
32 Baki MERCIMEK (Hol)
22 Simon RAMSDEN
6 Emerson THOME (Bra)
5 Stanislav VARGA (Slk)
18 Darren WILLIAMS

MIDFIELDERS
33 Julio ARCA (Arg)
26 Thomas BUTLER (Ire)
11 Kevin KILBANE (Ire)
16 Jason McATEER (Ire)
8 Gavin McCANN
14 Nicolas MEDINA (Arg)
28 John OSTER (Wal)
29 Tom PEETERS (Blg)
4 Claudio REYNA (USA)
21 Paul THIRLWELL

FORWARDS
15 David BELLION (Fra)
19 Kevin KYLE (Sco)
Lilian LASLANDES (Fra)
10 Kevin PHILLIPS
9 Niall QUINN (Ire)
27 Michael REDDY (Ire)

MANAGER
Peter REID

OUT: Mboma (Parma); Schwarz (retired)

TOTTENHAM

GOALKEEPERS
24 Lars HERSCHFELD (Can)
13 Kasey KELLER (USA)
1 Neil SULLIVAN (Sco)

DEFENDERS
5 Goran BUNJEVCEVIC (Yug)
2 Stephen CARR (Ire)
12 Gary DOHERTY (Ire)
30 Anthony GARDNER
26 Ledley KING
6 Chris PERRY
36 Dean RICHARDS
3 Mauricio TARICCO (Arg)
18 Ben THATCHER
31 Alton THELWELL

MIDFIELDERS
21 ***Milenko ACIMOVIC (Sln)***
7 Darren ANDERTON
25 Stephen CLEMENCE
29 Simon DAVIES (Wal)
28 Matthew ETHERINGTON
4 Steffen FREUND (Ger)
20 Johnnie JACKSON
17 Oyvind LEONHARDSEN (Nor)
34 John PIERCY
14 Gustavo POYET (Uru)
15 ***Jamie REDKNAPP***
8 Tim SHERWOOD
23 Christian ZIEGE (Ger)

FORWARDS
9 Les FERDINAND
16 Steffen IVERSEN (Nor)
QU Bo (Chn)
11 Serhii REBROV (Ukr)
10 Teddy SHERINGHAM

MANAGER
Glenn HODDLE

OUT: Armstrong (released); Toner (Orient)

WEST BROM

GOALKEEPERS
30 Chris ADAMSON
1 Russell HOULT
21 Brian JENSEN (Den)
31 Joe MURPHY (Ire)

DEFENDERS
27 Ross ADAMS
2 Igor BALIS (Slk)
24 Tony BUTLER
23 Adam CHAMBERS
22 James CHAMBERS
3 Neil CLEMENT
6 Phil GILCHRIST
25 Des LYTTLE
35 Tamika MKANDAWIRE
5 Darren MOORE
17 Larus SIGURDSSON (Ice)
7 Ronnie WALLWORK

MIDFIELDERS
8 Michael APPLETON
29 Mark BRIGGS
32 Matt COLLINS
34 Lloyd DYER
Sean GREGAN
10 Andy JOHNSON
20 JORDAO (Por)
4 Derek McINNES (Sco)
28 Matt TURNER

FORWARDS
9 Danny DICHIO
12 Scott DOBIE
11 Jason ROBERTS (Grn)
33 Mark SCOTT
15 Bob TAYLOR

MANAGER
Gary MEGSON

OUT:Fox, Petterson (both released)

WEST HAM

GOALKEEPERS
32 Stephen BYWATER
1 David JAMES
17 Raimond VAN DER GOUW (Hol)

DEFENDERS
15 Gary BREEN (Ire)
27 Shaun BYRNE (Ire)
7 Christian DAILLY (Sco)
Anton FERDINAND
5 Vladimir LABANT (Slk)
20 Scott MINTO
19 Ian PEARCE
2 Tomas REPKA (Cze)
30 Sebastien SCHEMMEL (Fra)
3 Nigel WINTERBURN

MIDFIELDERS
6 Michael CARRICK
Edouard CISSE (Fra)
26 Joe COLE
28 Laurent COURTOIS (Fra)
4 Don HUTCHISON (Sco)
11 Steve LOMAS (NI)
40 Grant McCANN (NI)
16 John MONCUR
8 Trevor SINCLAIR
18 Youssef SOFIANE (Fra)

FORWARDS
29 Aboubacar 'Titi' CAMARA (Gui)
9 Jermaine DEFOE
10 Paolo DI CANIO (Ita)
33 Richard GARCIA (Aus)
14 Frederic KANOUTE (Fra)

MANAGER
Glenn ROEDER

OUT: Hislop (Portsmouth); Newton (Peterborough); Metitri (Bristol City); Foxe (Portsmouth); Song (Lens); Kitson, Potts, Ferrante, Riza (all out of contract); Forrest, Charles (both retired)

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Keir Radnedge
COMMENTARY

Media scrimmage...it remains to be seen how they will cope without the daily diet of transfer speculation

Watch those spaces!

The transfer window will force Britain's tabloid press to tackle the real issues

SPARE a thought for the hidden victims of the opening up of the transfer window on to English football: the tabloid newspapers. On August 31 the block comes down, controversially, on all transfer activity until midway through term. That may prove to be something of an administrative nightmare for clubs and players' advisers.

But how will the media cope? A high percentage of the daily outpouring from the *Sun*, *Mirror*, *Star*, *Mail* and *Express* is taken up with transfer gossip. Much of that is fuelled by agents, who have a pecuniary interest in seeing 'their' players listed in the marketplace.

Remove that source of manufactured news and the tabloids will have to dig up some new subject matter from somewhere. Frankly, that could be good news for football reporting in England. Just think...Shock! Horror! the papers might have to start writing about the football itself.

The transfer window system is new only to the UK. It can be questioned from a purely legalistic point of view. The European Commission is happy with the concept as it affects international transfers but might not take the same view about domestic restrictions. On the other hand, the window has long been the norm in just about every other footballing nation and has never been questioned in Italy, Spain, France, Portugal etc.

Gazzetta dello Sport, *Marca*, *L'Equipe*, *A Bola* and the rest of the specialist continental press have been filling acres of daily football space for up to a century. So it can be done – though I do recall Trevor Francis once sympathising with Italian reporters desperate to fill space and who would approach him after every training session with Sampdoria, saying: "Please, Trevor, what can we talk about today?"

But there is one significant difference. Players and coaches in continental Western Europe are generally more media-friendly when it comes to opening up about the game. That is the key – they talk much more readily because they are being asked to discuss football. The difficulty in England is that the intrusive tabloid focus on extra-curricular activities has destroyed trust between players and reporters. Watch those spaces!

'Players talk more readily when asked to discuss football'

Munich men remembered

ONLY 12 days separated the sad deaths of two men who survived the Munich air disaster of 1958 – Manchester United goalkeeper Ray Wood, who was 71, and *News Chronicle* sports writer Frank Taylor, 81, author of the definitive account of the tragedy.

Wood, an England international, was United's reserve keeper, having been signed from Darlington. He was at the centre of controversy in the 1957 FA Cup Final. United were bidding to become the first club in the 20th century to win the League and Cup double. After six minutes Wood collected a cross, only to be knocked over by the onrushing Aston Villa forward Peter McParland.

The impact broke his jaw. There were no substitutes in those days. Jackie Blanchflower went in goal and United, with 10 men, lost 2-1. Although Wood fought his way back to fitness, he could not find his form next season and was subsequently replaced in United's goal by Northern Ireland international Harry Gregg. Wood was injured at Munich but ultimately recovered to play again.

Similarly, Taylor was seriously hurt at Munich but recovered to write again for many years, notably for the *Daily Mirror*.

Taylor was the only reporter to survive because, by an ironic coincidence that had irritated him at the time, he had been seated apart from the rest of the journalistic party.

The injuries to his arms and legs left him with a permanent limp but his spirit brought him back to work, back to the pinnacle of his profession and, ultimately, through to a long stint as president of AIPS, the international sports media organisation.

Classic reading matter

Last month, in an obituary for Fritz Walter, I nominated his autobiographical '3-2' as one of 10 classic soccer books. Readers have since enquired about my other nine. Utterly subjectively and in no particular order, here goes:

- *Soccer Revolution* (Willy Meisl)
- *World Cup* (Brian Glanville and Jerry Weinstein, the original history)
- *Britain Against Europe* (Roger Macdonald)
- *Storia del Calcio in Italia* (Antonio Ghirelli)
- *Real Madrid Book of Football* (Tony Stratton Smith)
- *Day a Team Died* (Frank Taylor)
- *Enciclopedia Mundial del Futbol* (ed. various)
- *Encyclopedia of World Soccer* (ed. Richard Henshaw)
- *The Footballers' Companion* (ed. Glanville)

Wembley – more questions than answers

THE Wembley saga drags on...and on. Back in 1999, Sir Geoff Hurst, looking at one set of proposals for the new stadium, said: "It will be the best stadium in the world and I only wish I were young enough to play in it."

Now the issue is not so much whether Wembley will be rebuilt but whether England need a national stadium at all. They go back on the road on September 7 at Villa Park, playing Portugal in a friendly to emerge from the World Cup hangover. It's been fun swinging around the country for the past two years but I think the gloss is wearing off.

It's different in Spain, Italy and Germany. But, in British sports terms, the very existence of a national stadium reflects the status of the game in the life of the nation. That status is in danger. Football needs to redouble its efforts to get the new Wembley off the ground. The site will not wait for ever. The chance will not come again.

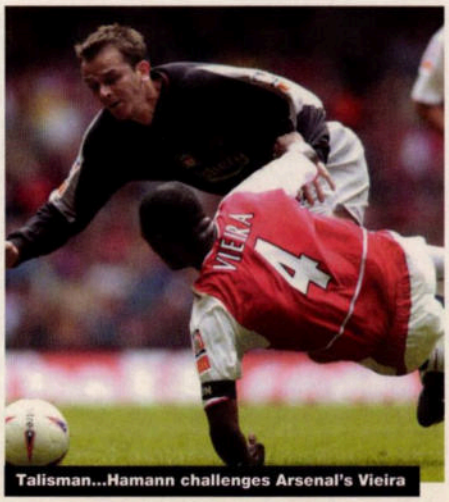
Crumbling edifice...a dilapidated kiosk at Wembley symbolises the delay over the new project

Hamann's the man

IS Didi Hamann Germany's most underrated export? It was after Liverpool substituted the German that they conceded the decisive goal against Arsenal in the season-opening Community Shield. It was also after Hamann was substituted against Bayer Leverkusen last season that Liverpool conceded the three goals which ended their Champions League campaign.

It was also when Hamann was suspended last season that Liverpool suffered the defeats by Chelsea and Arsenal which undermined their Premiership challenge.

Coincidence?



Talisman...Hamann challenges Arsenal's Vieira

What goes up...

Spare a thought for the 'hidden' victims of the collapse of the transfer market – agents. Share values in First Artist (Jon Smith) and Proactive (Paul Stretford) have slid, while SEM (Jerome Anderson) has issued a profits warning.

You win some, you lose some.

Pay-TV was a worldwide flop

The official World Cup website was the most successful production of its kind. Yahoo! claims the site, FIFAWorldCup.com, attracted well over 1.8 billion page views and more than 20 million visitors.

But, fascinatingly, the one sector of the site that flopped was the pay-per-view streaming of match highlights.

The price of around £12 per subscription proved a turn-off. Two reasons, probably. Firstly, wall-to-wall television of the World Cup in most high-tech countries would have undermined the value of the package.

Secondly, internet users had already paid enough for the connection and the phone line. Why, then, should they have parted with more money for material virtually running on a loop on their television screens throughout the tournament?

Road to recovery...George Best

All the Best to George

GOOD luck to George Best after his life-saving liver transplant. I don't understand those gripers who apparently begrudge him the chance of life. The pity is that Best is famous (or infamous) now for his erratic lifestyle rather than as a wonderfully talented sportsman. By the age of 27 he had won the Champions Cup and the League title, and had played 37 times for Northern Ireland. But when he walked out on Manchester United, approaching what should have been the peak of his career, he wasn't the only big loser. So was football.

Celtic get the picture

CELTIC'S retreat in their confrontation with the Scottish media over match photography is a fascinating straw in football's commercial wind.

The past few years of plenty have seen federations and clubs try to screw every possible penny out of mass communication.

Celtic upset the Scottish media by trying to insist that they be granted all rights to all pictures taken at Celtic Park. The papers responded with big white spaces instead of pictures from the pre-season friendly against Ajax. Celtic backed down.

Basically, they had misjudged the moment. Heading into deep recession, football needs to keep the media friendly, not go out of the way to antagonise it.

For the common good...Aberdeen (red shirts) have attracted a lot of interest in their revolutionary pay scheme

Can't play, won't pay

Ben Hamilton on the brave new world of performance-related pay

BEFORE the abolition of the maximum wage in 1961, the top 30 per cent of footballers in England earned a weekly salary of £20 per week, a mere £8 more than the national average.

The philosophy behind the system, albeit flawed considering that the players' employers were taking between £5,000 and £7,000 a game in gate receipts, was to reward the players with bonuses when they were successful, and effectively penalise them when they were not.

Bonuses came in many forms. A government report on the state of English football highlighted 18 different kinds. They played a key part in oiling the wheels of the machine, keeping the workers happy in a system that was, before the intervention of Professional Footballers' Association chairman Jimmy Hill 40 years ago, a scam.

Following the abolition of the maximum wage, bonuses took on less significance. Players could turn in poor performances, sit on the bench or in the treatment room and still be paid a more handsome wage.

From Johnny Haynes becoming the first £100-a-week player to today's telephone-number salaries, wages have spiralled out of control, while bonuses have remained comparatively small. For example, Arsenal were on a reported bonus of £20,000 a man to win last season's FA Cup – a whole two days' wages for some of their players.

'As clubs increasingly depend on winning to fill their coffers, how can they afford habitually unsuccessful players? Something has to give'

As clubs increasingly depend on winning to fill their coffers, how can they afford players who are habitually unsuccessful? Something has to give – so welcome to the world of performance-related pay.

It is not a new initiative; Scottish Premier League club Aberdeen have, for the past 18 months, been planning a switch to a pay system proportionate to the club's success and their resultant income. Chief executive Keith Wyness is compiling a blueprint for a system that could be in place in the near future.

Wyness contends that as squad sizes have increased, there has been less emphasis on appearance bonuses. "We have to shift the relationship and put the high-risk, high-reward factor back into football. We need to create a greater disparity between success and failure," he says. "At Aberdeen, we will create a virtual company with players taking virtual shares. Their reward will depend on the performance of the company overall and be directly linked to turnover. This will allow them to benefit from other areas of the club, namely the commercial side – merchandising, corporate sales, sponsorship."

Aberdeen's new pay scheme will reward the squad as a whole. It will not offer individual incentives. Rewarding individuals for feats such as scoring goals or keeping clean sheets could lead to a hierarchy in the pay structure and cause resentment. For example, how would the players react to a forward who never passes or a defender who abandons defensive responsibilities at set-pieces?

However, individual bonus schemes can work. Ron Noades, while chairman of Crystal Palace, memorably promised a substantial goalscoring bonus to midfielder Eddie McGoldrick during the 1992-93 season. In his previous 105 appearances he had scored just three times, but then proceeded to bag 10 goals over the term.

A form of performance-related pay has already been accepted in principle by players in Italy's Serie A, where there are concerns that many clubs could follow Fiorentina out of existence should they fail to cut wage bills and transfer expenditure.

Two seasons ago Serie A clubs suffered combined losses of £133m compared to a profit of £35m in the preceding term. This was a result of player wages rising 32 per cent, while turnover remained the same.

In June the players agreed to an automatic 20 per cent pay cut should their club be relegated from the top flight. Negotiations are currently under way between the League, federation and players' union. "From now on contracts will be flexible. One part will be fixed, another based on performance – results, goals scored or saved and other factors," said Italian Footballers' Union president Sergio Campana.

Milan coach Carlo Ancelotti has a contract based on performance-related pay, which managing director Adriano Galliani called a "relatively low fixed salary but an important bonus based on results".

One of Ancelotti's players, Argentinian Fernando Redondo, has taken performance-related pay a little too literally. Last year he told the club he would renounce his salary until he recovered from a long-term injury.

Ironically, even the mastermind behind the abolition of the maximum wage is in favour of a reintroduction of a salary cap, even if it is an unofficial one. "Smaller clubs are paying amounts they cannot afford," says Jimmy Hill. "Only 10 clubs in this country are in proper control of their wage bill."

In August, Premier League chief executive Richard Scudamore conceded that contracts need to be more flexible, particularly for clubs who are relegated from the English top flight and suffer a £15m shortfall in revenue overnight.

"I know of clubs who are saying to their players: 'Here is your basic wage and if we retain Premier League status then it is X and if we do not then it is Y,'" he says.

Wyness, meanwhile, has already been contacted by 26 clubs, including several from outside the UK, who wanted to know more about Aberdeen's plans.

The world of performance-related pay could be just round the corner.

WORLDSERVICE

INTERNATIONALS

Saturday, July 6

July 6 - British Virgin Islands - friendly
British Virgin Islands 2
Anguilla 1

July 6 - Lusaka - Cosafa CC quarter-final
Zambia 3 (Kilambe 10, 57, Nsofwa 37)
Mozambique 0
HT: 2-0

Sunday, July 7

July 7 - Blantyre - friendly
Malawi 3
Zimbabwe 2

Sunday, July 14

July 14 - Tortola - Gold Cup prlm, 1st leg
British Virgin Islands 1 (Huggins 53)
St Lucia 3 (V Joseph 15, McVane 40, Jean-Marie 60)
HT: 0-2

Friday, July 19

July 19 - Baghdad - friendly
Iraq 2
Syria 0
HT: 0-0

Sunday, July 21

July 21 - San Juan - Gold Cup prlm, 2nd leg
Puerto Rico 0
Guadeloupe 2 (Benon 26, Radacal 84)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Richard (Dom)
Guadeloupe 6-0 on agg; qualify for Caribbean Zone finals
Puerto Rico: Memendi - A Caicedo, L Mussenden (Gadiel 52), Nieves, Toal, Ortiz, A Mussenden (Rivera 79), C Caicedo (Villa 81), Astondoa, Torres, Pereira.
Guadeloupe: Germain - Likion, Derid, D Mocka (Radacal 81), Vertot, E Mocka, Cassubie (T Mocka 62), Benon, Rigobert, Nabab (Lambourde 59), Fereol.

July 21 - Port Elizabeth - Cosafa CC quarter-final
South Africa 0
Madagascar 0
South Africa 4-1 on pens
South Africa: Arendse - Nzama, Coyle, Khoabane, Molefe, Fredericks, Pule, T Mokoena, Vilakazi (Lekoelea 75), Mazibuko, Mayo (Kauleza 65).

Monday, July 22

July 22 - Baghdad - friendly
Iraq 2
Syria 1

Thursday, July 25

July 25 - Basseterre, St Kitts - 4-team tnmt
Barbados 0
Trinidad & Tobago 0

July 25 - Basseterre, St Kitts - 4-team tnmt
St Kitts & Nevis 3 (og, J Francis, Sargeant)
Taiwan 0
HT: 1-0

Friday, July 26

July 26 - Khartoum, Sudan - 4-team tnmt
Ethiopia 0
Uganda 0

July 26 - Khartoum, Sudan - 4-team tnmt
Sudan 2
Chad 0

Saturday, July 27

July 27 - Basseterre, St Kitts - 4-team tnmt
St Kitts & Nevis 3 (Isaac, J Francis, Gumbs)
Barbados 0

July 27 - Basseterre, St Kitts - 4-team tnmt
Taiwan 1
Trinidad & Tobago 0

Sunday, July 28

July 28 - Paramaribo - Gold Cup prlm, 1st leg
Aruba 0
Surinam 2 (Kejansi 55, Sandvliet 62)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Faneijte (A&B)

July 28 - Khartoum, Sudan - 4-team tnmt
Chad 3
Ethiopia 2

July 28 - Georgetown - Gold Cup prlm, 1st leg
Guyana 2 (Cole 6, Forbes 56)
Dutch Antilles 1 (Muzo 14)
HT: 1-1
Guyana: Hendricks - Pollard, Holligan, Lowe, Bobb, Forbes, Harris (Brown 59), McKinnon, Cole, Hercules (Richardson 59), Jerome (Glenn 88).
Dutch Antilles: Pisas - Poppen, Mongen, Mauris, Isnacia, Martha, Maduro (Gijsbertha 71), Monte, Ianga, Martis (Meulanis 88), Muzo (Lodov 71).

July 28 - Basseterre, St Kitts - 4-team tnmt
St Kitts & Nevis 2 (Sargeant, Isaac)
Trinidad & Tobago 1 (Toussiant)
HT: 0-1

July 28 - Vieux Fort - Gold Cup prlm, 2nd leg
St Lucia 8 (Walter 2, V Joseph 7, McVane 43, Jean-Marie 52, 75, Mark 54, E Joseph 58, Elva 82)
British Virgin Is 1 (Azile 36)
HT: 3-1. **Ref:** Forde (Bar)
St Lucia 11-2 on agg; qualify for Caribbean Zone finals

July 28 - Khartoum, Sudan - 4-team tnmt
Sudan 2
Uganda 1

Tuesday, July 30

July 30 - St George's - friendly
Grenada 5 (Williams 2, 36, Wharwood 13, 31, Charles pen 47)
Taiwan 2 (Hsiao Hsien-chang 18, Chen Kun-shan 58)
HT: 4-1. **Att:** 4,500. **Ref:** Phillip (Grn)
Grenada: K Baptiste - A Modeste, Charles, F Baptiste, Phillip, C Bain (K Bain 82), Andrew, Williams (John 63), P Modeste (Rennie 59), Henry (Forde 46), Wharwood. *Sent off: Wharwood 60min.*
Taiwan: Wu Chen-i - Wang Shyh-kuen (Yang Cheng-hsing 22), Ju Wen-bin (Wang Chien-hsiang 88), Chang Wu-yeh (Hung Chin-hwai 73), Lin Kuei-pin, Wu Ching-wen, Chen Chung-tzu (Chen Jeng-i 40), Hsiao Hsien-chang (Sheu Sheau-bao 68), Tsai Hui-kai, Hsu Tui-chen (Chuang Wei-sun 43), Chen Kun-shan. *Sent off: Chang Wu-yeh 60min, Chuang Wei-sun 90min.*

July 30 - Khartoum, Sudan - 4-team tnmt
Sudan 3
Ethiopia 0

July 30 - Khartoum, Sudan - 4-team tnmt
Uganda 2
Chad 0

SUDAN 4-TEAM TNMT - FINAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sudan	3	3	0	0	7	1	9
Uganda	3	1	1	1	3	2	4
Chad	3	1	0	2	3	6	3
Ethiopia	3	0	1	2	2	6	1

Thursday, August 1

Aug 1 - Swaziland - friendly
Swaziland 0
Mauritius 1

Friday, August 2

Aug 2 - St George's - friendly
Grenada 0
Jamaica 1 (Taylor)

Saturday, August 3

Aug 3 - friendly
Kenya 0
Uganda 0

Aug 3 - Swaziland - friendly
Swaziland 0
Mauritius 0

Sunday, August 4

Aug 4 - Saint-Martin - Gold Cup prlm, 2nd leg
Saint-Martin 1 (Francois 88)
Grenada 7 (K Bain 13, Phillip 23, K Baptiste pen 54, Bishop 64, Charles 67, 72, 85)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 200. **Ref:** Rouse (Agl)
Grenada 15-4 on agg; qualify for Caribbean Zone finals
Saint-Martin: Lecointe - Emile, Helligar, Lynch (Cozier 72), Daniel, Hodge, Gumbs, Francois, Manuel (Gamiette 46), Cherubin, Denis (Benjamin 29).
Grenada: K Baptiste - P Modeste, F Baptiste, Andrew, Benjamin, Charles, Phillip, Wharwood (John 46), Morris, Rennie (Ettienna 70), K Bain (Bishop 55).

Thursday, August 8

Aug 8 - Alexandria - friendly
Egypt 4 (Barakat 4, Belal 6, Ali 80, Hamdi 88)
Ethiopia 1 (El Nahhas og 86)
HT: 2-0
Egypt: El Hadary - El Shater (Saber), Fahim (Shiko) El Nahhas, Gomaa (Adel), Meawwad (Ela), Barakat (Hamdi), Shawki (Ghali), Gaafar (Kamel), Bebo (Youssef), Belal (Ali).

Saturday, August 10

Aug 10 - Blantyre - Cosafa CC semi-final
Malawi 1 (Kanyenda pen 66)
Zambia 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 60,000. **Ref:** Phomane (Les)
Malawi: Dzinkambani - Mtambo, Nundwe, Mgangira (Msuku 73), Msowoya, Gatros, Yobe (Bakali 62), Maduka, Kondowe, Munthali (Phiri 88), Kanyenda.
Zambia: Phiri - Chilembi, Musonda, Tana, Chalwe, B Mwanza, Lungu, K Mwanza (Zulu 72), Kilambe, Nsofwa, Milanzi (Chipeta 84).

Sunday, August 11

Aug 11 - Willemstad - Gold Cup prlm, 2nd leg
Dutch Antilles 1 (Martis 43)
Guyana 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Villar Polo (Aru)
Agg 2-2. Dutch Antilles 3-2 on pens; qualify for Caribbean Zone finals
Dutch Antilles: Pisas - Mongen, Poppen, Janga, Maduro, Muzo, Lodovica (Forbuis 38), Troeman, Ignacia (Martis 35), Brunkard, Martha (Gysberta 70). *Sent off: Mongen 74min.*
Guyana: Hendricks - Lowe, Bobb, Holligan, Harris (Richardson 64), Cole, Hercules (Glenn 47), Pollard, Reid, Jerome, McKinnon. *Sent off: Cole 35min.*

Aug 11 - Vieux Fort - friendly
St Lucia 1 (Joseph)
Jamaica 3 (Dean 2, Taylor)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 8,000

Aug 11 - Paramaribo - Gold Cup prlm, 2nd leg
Surinam 6 (Zinhagel 28, 47, Kejansi 35, 57, 84, Kinsaini 63)
Aruba 0
HT: 2-0. **Att:** 2,500. **Ref:** Mercera (A&B)
Surinam 8-0 on agg; qualify for Caribbean Zone finals
Surinam: Blokland - Jap-a-Joe, Blackson, Mayland, Grootfarm, Sandvliet, Kinsaini, Kejansi (Wanabo 88), Zinhagel (Zebeda 71), Panka, Lupson. *Sent off: Panka 38min.*
Aruba: Tromp - Aparicio, Gomez (Elskamp 57), G Lake, R Lake, Mackay, Pimienta, Albertsz, Geerman (Romney 74), Zimmerman, Poppen (Mejia 64). *Sent off: Zimmerman 38min*

EUROPE

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

1st qual rnd, 2nd legs

July 24

APOEL Nicosia (Cyp) 1 (Georgiou 51)
Flora Tallinn (Est) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Radoman (Yug)
Sent off: Piiroja (Flora) 86min
APOEL 1-0 on agg

B36 Torshavn (Far) 0
Torpedo Kutaisi (Geo) 1 (Janashia 76)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** McKeon (Ire)
Torpedo 6-2 on agg

Barry Town (Wal) 0
Skonto Riga (Lat) 1 (Kolesnicenko 51)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Orrason (Ice)
Skonto 6-0 on agg

Belshina Bobruisk (Bls) 3 (Stripeikis 6, Karolik 22, 59)
Portadown (NI) 2 (G Hamilton 39, Fitzgerald 74)
HT: 2-1. **Ref:** Hyytia (Fin)
Belshina 3-2 on agg

Dinamo Tirana (Alb) 0
FBK Kaunas (Lit) 0
Ref: Beck (Lie)
Dinamo 3-2 on agg

IA Akranes (Ice) 0
Zeljeznicar (Bos) 1 (Gredic 33)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Lajuks (Lat)
Zeljeznicar 4-0 on agg

Pyunik Yerevan (Arm) 2 (Diawara 53, Cisterna 90)
Tampere United (Fin) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Kliuchnikov (Rus)
Pyunik 6-0 on agg

Shelbourne (Ire) 0
Hibernians (Mlt) 1 (Chukunyere 90)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Godulyan (Ukr)
Hibernians 3-2 on agg

Vardar Skopje (Mac) 3 (Spasovski 70, 75, Petkov 85)
F91 Dudelange (Lux) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Juhos (Hun)
Vardar 4-1 on agg

Zhenis Astana (Kaz) 3 (Tlekhougov 32, Lovchev 41, Klishin 52)
Serif Tiraspol (Mol) 2 (Boret 58, Nesteruk 59)
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Albrecht (Ger)
Agg 4-4. Serif on away goals

2nd qual rnd, 1st legs

July 31

Boavista (Por) 4 (E Silva pen 16, 29, Goulart 17, Avalos 89)
Hibernians 0
HT: 3-0. **Ref:** Mikulski (Pol)

Brondby (Den) 1 (Bagger 90)
Dinamo Tirana 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Tudor (Rom)

Club Brugge (Blg) 3 (Lange 24, Mendoza 44, 85)
Dinamo Bucharest (Rom) 1 (Alexa 43)
HT: 2-1. **Ref:** Baskakov (Rus)
Sent off: Danciu (Dinamo) 84min

Hammarby (Swe) 1 (Winsnes 17)
Partizan Belgrade (Yug) 1 (Lazovic 37)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Frolich (Ger)

Kyiv Dynamo (Ukr) 4 (Cernat 15, Shatskikh 65, Machado 84, Bodnar 90)
Pyunik Yerevan 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Brugger (Aut)
Sent off: Bilibio (Pyunik) 64min

Lillestrom (Nor) 0
Zeljeznicar 1 (Gredic 49)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Yefet (Isr)

Maccabi Haifa (Isr) 4 (Cohen 19, 22, Rosso 45, Abiodun 86)
Belshina Bobruisk 0
HT: 3-0. **Ref:** Stredak (Slk)
Played in Nicosia, Cyprus

Maribor (Sln) 2 (Corovic 45, 64)
APOEL Nicosia 1 (Sirakov 90)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Gilewski (Pol)

MSK Zilina (Slk) 1 (Barcik 30)
Basle (Swi) 1 (Klago og 39)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Duhamel (Fra)

Serif Tiraspol 1 (Tarkhnishvili pen 51)
Grazer AK (Aut) 4 (Bazina 3, 50, Aufhauser 45, Hastings 71)
HT: 0-2. **Ref:** Vollquartz (Den)

Skonto Riga 0
Levski Sofia (Bul) 0
Ref: Leuba (Swi)

Sparta Prague (Cze) 3 (Baranek 7, 20, Pospisil 75)
Torpedo Kutaisi 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Nilsson (Swe)

Vardar Skopje 1 (Ristovski 63)
Legia Warsaw (Pol) 3 (Kucharski 3, Yahaya 37, Svitlica 89)
HT: 0-2. **Ref:** Kapitanis (Cyp)

Zalaegerszeg (Hun) 1 (Ljubojevic 17)
Zagreb (Cro) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Allaerts (Blg)

2nd qual rnd, 2nd legs

August 7

APOEL Nicosia 4 (Malekkos pen 33, Ilia 44, Charalambides 56, Daskalakis 69)
Maribor 2 (Duro pen 31, 81)
HT: 2-1. **Ref:** Bartolo Benquerenca (Por)
Sent off: Agathocleous (APOEL) 38min
APOEL 5-4 on agg

Basle (Swi) 3 (Gimenez 12, 50, M Yakin 23)
MSK Zilina 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Ceferin (Sln)
Basle 4-1 on agg

Belshina Bobruisk 0
Maccabi Haifa 1 (Pralija pen 7)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Bozinovski (Mac)
Maccabi 5-0 on agg

Dinamo Bucharest 0
Club Brugge 1 (Lange 20)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Sundell (Swe)
Brugge 4-1 on agg

Dinamo Tirana 0
Brondby 4 (Madsen 47, Bagger 50, 87, Skarbalius pen 89)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Kasnaferis (Gre)
Brondby 5-0 on agg

Grazer AK 2 (Potscher 58, Bazina 88)
Serif Tiraspol 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Trivkovic (Cro)
Grazer 6-1 on agg

Hibernians 3 (A Mifsud 32, pen 55, Chukunyere 52)
Boavista 3 (Jocivalter 28, Luiz Claudio 38, Paulo Turra 41)
HT: 1-3. **Ref:** Jakobsson (Ice)
Boavista 7-3 on agg

Legia Warsaw 1 (Kucharski 32)
Vardar Skopje 1 (Da Costa 51)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Van Egmond (Hol)
Legia 4-2 on agg

Levski Sofia 2 (Chilikov 12, Simonovic 31)
Skonto Riga 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Vuorela (Fin)
Levski 2-0 on agg

Partizan Belgrade 4 (Ivic 49, Lazovic 54, Iliev 64, Ilic 75)
Hammarby 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Farina (Ita)
Partizan 5-1 on agg

Pyunik Yerevan 2 (Artavazd Karamian 31, Arman Karamian 57)
Kyiv Dynamo 2 (Shatskikh 8, Melaschenko 28)
HT: 1-2. **Ref:** Bennett (Eng)
Dynamo 6-2 on agg

Torpedo Kutaisi 1 (Ionanidze 32)
Sparta Prague 2 (Zelenka 41, Jun 56)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Clark (Sco)
Sparta 5-1 on agg

Zagreb 2 (Milinovic 2, Lovrek 28)
Zalaegerszeg 1 (Urban pen 88)
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Perez Burrull (Spa)
Sent off: Kocsardi (Zalaegerszeg) 81min
Agg 2-2. Zalaegerszeg on away goals

Zeljeznicar 1 (Biscevic 90)
Lillestrom 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Hanacsek (Hun)
Zeljeznicar 2-0 on agg

3rd qual rnd, 1st legs

August 13

APOEL Nicosia 2 (Ouzounidis 23, Malekkos pen 90)
AEK Athens (Gre) 3 (Borbokis 44, 47, Nikolaidis 90)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Poulat (Fra)

Boavista 0
Auxerre (Fra) 1 (Cisse 71)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Ivanov (Rus)

Feyenoord (Hol) 1 (Ono 64)
Fenerbahce (Tur) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Bre (Fra)

Genk (Blg) 2 (Thijs 33, Beslija 40)
Sparta Prague 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Milton Nielsen (Den)

Maccabi Haifa 2 (Aiyegbeni 17, 90)
Sturm Graz (Aut) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Barber (Eng)
Played in Sofia, Bulgaria

August 14

Barcelona (Spa) 3 (De Boer 8, Riquelme 80, Cocu 90)
Legia Warsaw 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Benes (Cze)

Celtic (Sco) 3 (Larsson pen 3, Sutton 52, Sylla 88)
Basle 1 (Gimenez 2)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Mejuto Gonzalez (Spa)

Grazer AK 0
Lokomotiv Moscow (Rus) 2 (Lekgetho 5, Loskov 42)
HT: 0-2. **Ref:** Sars (Fra)

Levski Sofia 0
Kyiv Dynamo 1 (Cernat 60)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** De Santis (Ita)

Milan (Ita) 1 (Inzaghi 68)
Slovan Liberec (Cze) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Plautz (Aut)

Partizan Belgrade 0
Bayern Munich (Ger) 3 (Tarnat 21, Jeremies 70, Pizarro 77)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Dougal (Sco)
Sent off: Duljaj (Partizan) 75min

Rosenborg (Nor) 1 (Brattbakk 53)
Brondby 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Messina (Ita)

Shakhtar Donetsk (Ukr) 1 (Aghahowa 47)
Club Brugge 1 (Simons pen 86)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Fandel (Ger)
Sent off: Van der Heyden (Brugge) 79min

Sporting Lisbon (Por) 0
Internazionale (Ita) 0
Ref: Pedersen (Nor)

Zalaegerszeg 1 (Koplarovics 90)
Manchester United (Eng) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Stark (Ger)

Zeljeznicar 0
Newcastle United (Eng) 1 (Dyer 56)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Michel (Slk)

Direct group stage qualifiers

Ajax (Hol), Arsenal (Eng), Bayer Leverkusen (Ger), Borussia Dortmund (Ger), Deportivo La Coruna (Spa), Galatasaray (Tur), Juventus (Ita), Lens (Fra), Liverpool (Eng), Lyon (Fra), Moscow Spartak (Rus), Olympiakos (Gre), PSV Eindhoven (Hol), Real Madrid (Spa), Roma (Ita), Valencia (Spa).

UEFA CUP

Qual rnd, 1st legs

August 13

Vaduz (Lie) 1 (Burgmeier 61)
Livingston (Sco) 1 (Rubio 51)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Zrnic (Bos)

August 15

Aberdeen (Sco) 1 (Mackie 59)
Nistru Otaci (Mol) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Poulsen (Den)

AIK Stockholm (Swe) 2 (Hoch 26, Nordin 90)
IBV Vestmannaeyjar (Ice) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Van Hulten (Hol)

Amica Wronki (Pol) 5 (Bieniuk 35, Dembinski 56, Krol 64, Dawidowski 80, 88)
TNS Llansantfraid (Wal) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Altmayer (Rom)

Anorthosis Famagusta (Cyp) 3 (Piekarski 21, Kowalczyk 43, Xiourouppas pen 80)
Grevenmacher (Lux) 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Vialichka (Bls)

Atyrau (Kaz) 0
Matador Puchov (Slk) 0
Ref: Styles (Eng)

Avenir Beggen (Lux) 0
Ipswich Town (Eng) 1 (Stewart 90)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Alexiev (Bul)

Bangor City (Wal) 1 (Roberts 69)
Sartid (Yug) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Shmolik (Bls)

Brann Bergen (Nor) 2 (Knudsen 45, Furuseth Olsen 58)
Suduva (Lit) 3 (Zitinskas 8, 20, Radzihevicius 18)
HT: 1-3. **Ref:** Malcolm (NI)

FC Copenhagen (Den) 3 (Jonsson 42, 54, Roll Larsen 46)
Lokomotiv Tbilisi (Geo) 1 (Dzhanashiya 9)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Jara (Cze)

Dinamo Minsk (Bls) 1 (M Tsyhalka 66)
CSKA Sofia (Bul) 4 (Mukansi 18, Dimitrov 28, 47, Brito 31)
HT: 0-3. **Ref:** Rogalla (Swi)

Dinamo Tbilisi (Geo) 4 (Da Rocha 6, Daraselia 14, Shashiashvili 43, 49)
Tallinna VMK (Est) 1 (Leetma 75)
HT: 3-0. **Ref:** Hlavac (Cze)

Domagnano (SaM) 0
Viktoria Zizkov (Cze) 2 (Sabou 27, Straceny 80)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Jareci (Alb)
Sent off: Pikl (Zizkov) 90min

Encamp (And) 0
Zenit St Petersburg (Rus) 5 (Arshavin 2, 51, Spivak pen 59, Makarov 65, Ossipov 71)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Richards (Wal)

Ferencvaros (Hun) 4 (Tokoli 10, 11, Gera 55, Szkukalek 58)
AEL Limassol (Cyp) 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Guenov (Bul)

Fylkir (Ice) 1 (Sverrisson pen 59)
Excelsior Mouscron (Blg) 1 (Gregoire 26)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Freeland (Sco)

Glentoran (NI) 0
Wisla Krakow (Pol) 2 (Zurawski pen 73, Dubicki 88)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Gadosi (Slk)

Gomel (Bls) 1 (Barel 60)
HJK Helsinki (Fin) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Uzun (Tur)

Hajduk Split (Cro) 3 (Dolonga 22, Pletikosa pen 60, Deranja 84)
Gl Gotu (Far) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Antonov (Mol)

Hapoel Tel Aviv (Isr) 1 (Abuksis 49)
Partizani (Alb) 0
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Anghelinei (Rom)
Played in Sofia, Bulgaria

Kairat Almaty (Kaz) 0
Red Star Belgrade (Yug) 2 (Bogdanovic 43, Mrda 66)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** McDonald (Sco)
Sent off: Shayakhmetov (Kairat) 78min

Kl Klaksvik (Far) 2 (Morkore 45, 53)
Ujpest (Hun) 2 (Juhar 14, Farkas 68)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Byrne (Ire)

Koba Senec (Slk) 1 (Juska 11)
Siroki Brijeg (Bos) 2 (Katic 30, 70)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Khudiev (Aze)

Leixoes (Por) 2 (Antchouet 60, Brito 75)
Belasica (Mac) 2 (Ahmetovic 53, 55)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Rosetti (Ita)
Sent off: Sergio (Leixoes) 63min

Levadia Tallinn (Est) 0
Maccabi Tel Aviv (Isr) 2 (Prohorenkovs 4, Strool 23)
HT: 0-2. **Ref:** Sowa (Aut)

Litex Lovech (Bul) 5 (Nikolov 28, Stoilov 58, Yovov 70, 75, Roussev 79)
Atlantas (Lit) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Kandare (Sln)
Sent off: Maciulevicius (Atlantas) 89min

Metalurgs Liepaja (Lat) 0
Karnten (Aut) 2 (Maric 57, Bubalo 77)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Feighery (Ire)
Sent off: Klava (Metalurgs) 51min

Metalurh Zaporizhzhya (Ukr) 3 (Akopyan 17, Ivanov 58, Brdanin 68)
Birkirkara (Mlt) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Malagouradze (Geo)

MyPa (Fin) 1 (Manso 16)
OB Odense (Den) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Weiner (Ger)

Pobeda Prilep (Mac) 2 (M Nielsen og 35, Krstev 70)
Midtjylland (Den) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Messner (Aut)
Sent off: Jorgensen (Midtjylland) 38min; Nikolaevski (Pobeda) 74min

Primorje (Sln) 6 (Gregoric 31, Zatkovic 49, 72, 74, 89, Ranic 68)
Zvartnots (Arm) 1 (T Davityan 82)
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Sapailo (Lat)

Rapid Bucharest (Rom) 2 (Schumacher 17, pen 72)
HIT Gorica (Sln) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Coue (Fra)

Shamrock Rovers (Ire) 1 (McGuinness 50)
Djurgardens (Swe) 3 (Wowoah 23, Stefandis 52, Kallstrom 69)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Medina Cantalejo (Spa)

Sigma Olomouc (Cze) 2 (Putik 45, P Ekwueme 75)
Sarajevo (Bos) 1 (Osmanhodzic 30)
HT: 1-1. **Ref:** Nalbandyan (Arm)

Sliema Wanderers (Mlt) 1 (Do Nascimento 90)
Polonia Warsaw (Pol) 3 (Bartczak 54, Bak 71, Udenkwor 86)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Levi (Isr)
Sent off: Garcia Conceicao (Sliema) 62min

Spartak Yerevan (Arm) 0
Servette (Swi) 2 (Coubadja Toure 72, 84)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Slupik (Pol)

Stabaek (Nor) 4 (Finstad 12, Gudmundsson 18, 89, Baldvinsson 76)
Linfield (Nl) 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Rodriguez Santiago (Spa)

SK Tirana (Alb) 0
National Bucharest (Rom) 1 (Radu pen 33)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Attard (Mlt)

Varteks (Cro) 5 (Huljev 28, Hrman 32, Mumlek pen 55, Karic 69, Sklepic 90)
Dundalk (Ire) 0
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Briakos (Gre)

Ventspils (Lat) 3 (Landyrev 40, 67, Rimkus 58)
Lugano (Swi) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Frojdfeldt (Swe)

Zimbru Chisinau (Mol) 3 (Frunza 22, 37, Gvazava 28)
IFK Gothenburg (Swe) 1 (S Henriksson 36)
HT: 3-1. **Ref:** Verbist (Blg)

Direct 1st rnd qualifiers

Alaves (Spa), Anderlecht (Blg), Ankaragucu (Tur), Austria Wien (Aut), Besiktas (Tur), Blackburn Rovers (Eng), Bordeaux (Fra), Celta Vigo (Spa), Chelsea (Eng), Chievo (Ita), CSKA Moscow (Rus), Denizlispor (Tur), Dinamo Zagreb (Cro), Grasshopper (Swi), Heerenveen (Hol), Hertha Berlin (Ger), Iraklis (Gre), Kocaelispor (Tur), Lazio (Ita), Leeds United (Eng), Lorient (Fra), Metalurh Donetsk (Ukr), Panathinaikos (Gre), PAOK Salonika (Gre), Paris Saint-Germain (Fra), Parma (Ita), FC Porto (Por), Rangers (Sco), Real Betis (Spa), Schalke (Ger), Slavia Prague (Cze), Utrecht (Hol), Viking Stavanger (Nor), Vitesse Arnhem (Hol), Werder Bremen (Ger), Xanthi (Gre).

INTERTOTO CUP

3rd rnd, 1st legs

July 20: Bologna (Ita) 2 BATE Borisov (Bls) 0; Fulham (Eng) 1 Aigaleo (Gre) 0; Gloria Bistrita (Rom) 0 Lille (Fra) 2; Malaga (Spa) 3 Gent (Blg) 0; Marek (Bul) 0 Slaven Belupo (Cro) 3; NAC Breda (Hol) 1 Troyes (Fra) 1; Stuttgart (Ger) 3 Perugia (Ita) 1.
July 21: Kaiserslautern (Ger) 2 Teplice (Cze) 1; Kryliya Sovetov (Rus) 3 Willem II (Hol) 1; Synot (Cze) 0 Sochaux (Fra) 3; Torino (Ita) 2 Villarreal (Spa) 0; Zurich (Swi) 2 Aston Villa (Eng) 0.

3rd rnd, 2nd legs

July 27: Aigaleo 1 Fulham 1 *Fulham 2-1 on agg*; Aston Villa 3 Zurich 0 *Aston Villa 3-2 on agg*; BATE Borisov 0 Bologna 0 *Bologna 2-0 on agg*; Gent 1 Malaga 1 *Malaga 4-1 on agg*; Lille 1 Gloria Bistrita 0 *Lille 3-0 on agg*; Perugia 2 Stuttgart 1 *Stuttgart 4-3 on agg*; Slaven Belupo 3 Marek 1 *Slaven 6-1 on agg*; Sochaux 0 Synot 0 *Sochaux 3-0 on agg*; Teplice 4 Kaiserslautern 0 *Teplice 5-2 on agg*; Troyes 0 NAC Breda 0 *Agg 1-1. Troyes on away goals*; Villarreal 2 Torino 0 *Agg 2-2. Villarreal 4-3 on pens*; Willem II 2 Kryliya Sovetov 0 *Agg 3-3. Willem II on away goals.*

Semi-finals, 1st legs

July 31: Bologna 5 Teplice 1; Fulham 1 Sochaux 0; Lille 1 Aston Villa 1; Malaga 2 Willem II 1; Stuttgart 2 Slaven Belupo 1; Villarreal 0 Troyes 0.

Semi-finals, 2nd legs

Aug 7: Aston Villa 0 Lille 2 *Lille 3-1 on agg*; Slaven Belupo 0 Stuttgart 1 *Stuttgart 3-1 on agg*; Sochaux 0 Fulham 2 *Fulham 3-0 on agg*; Teplice 1 Bologna 3 *Bologna 8-2 on agg*; *Troyes 0 Villarreal 3 *Villarreal 3-0 on agg*; Willem II 0 Malaga 1 *Malaga 3-1 on agg.*
**Game finished 2-1 to Troyes but was awarded 3-0 to Villarreal because Troyes fielded an ineligible player.*

Finals, 1st legs

Aug 13: Bologna 2 (Signori pen 53, pen 76) Fulham 2 (Inamoto 63, Legwinski 87); Lille 1 (Bonnal 20) Stuttgart 0; Villarreal 0 Malaga 1 (Garcia Leon 8).

AUSTRIA

July 23: Bregenz 0 Rapid Wien 1.
July 24: Austria Wien 3 Grazer AK 0; Pasching 1 Salzburg 0; Sturm Graz 2 SV Ried 0; Admira 0 Karnten 3.
July 30: Sturm Graz 3 Bregenz 0.
July 31: Rapid Wien 1 Pasching 0; SV Ried 2 Admira 0; Salzburg 0 Austria Wien 4.
Aug 4: Karnten 1 Grazer AK 1.
Aug 7: Admira 0 Sturm Graz 3; Austria Wien 1 Rapid Wien 1; Karnten 3 SV Ried 0.
Aug 10: Grazer AK 0 Salzburg 1; Pasching 0 Bregenz 0.

AUSTRIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sturm Graz	5	4	0	1	10	5	12
Austria Wien	5	3	2	0	11	2	11
Rapid Wien	5	3	1	1	8	3	10
Pasching	5	3	1	1	6	1	10
Karnten	5	2	2	1	8	5	8
Admira	5	2	0	3	3	9	6
SV Ried	5	1	1	3	3	8	4
Bregenz	5	0	3	2	3	7	3
Salzburg	5	1	0	4	2	8	3
Grazer AK	5	0	2	3	3	9	2

BELGIUM

Friday, August 9

Genk 2 (Daerden 52, 58)
Lokeren 3 (Bangoura 20, Gretarsson 48, Kimoto 85) Att: 23,620

Standard 0
Mouscron 3 (Bakadal 72, 87, Martic 83) Att: 18,000

Saturday, August 10

Beveren 3 (Yapi Yapo 19, Boka 37, Toure 46)
Mons 0 Att: 3,000

Gent 0
Royal Antwerp 0 Att: 10,326

Germinal Beerschot 3 (Kpaka 22, Snelders 26, Hayen og 48)
St Truiden 2 (Mitrovic 40, Van Geel 76) Att: 7,950

Lommel 1 (Valenta 19)
Lierse 2 (Huysegems 61, Schaessens 70) Att: 4,000

Mechelen 1 (Boeka-Lisasi 57)
Charleroi 0 Att: 6,000

Westerlo 0
Anderlecht 2 (Seol 36, Verheyen og 42) Att: 9,000

Sunday, August 11

La Louviere 1 (Tilmant pen 20)
Club Brugge 2 (Lange 12, Mendoza 49) Att: 8,000

BELGIUM

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Beveren	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Mouscron	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Anderlecht	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Germinal B	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
Lokeren	1	1	0	0	3	2	3
Club Brugge	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Lierse	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Mechelen	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Gent	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Royal Antwerp	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Genk	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
St Truiden	1	0	0	1	2	3	0
La Louviere	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Lommel	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Charleroi	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Westerlo	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Mons	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
Standard	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

LEADING GOALSCORERS
2 Claude Bakadal (Mouscron)
2 Koen Daerden (Genk)

SUPER CUP

Aug 3 - Genk
Genk 0
Club Brugge 2 (Sillah 76, De Cock 80)
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 8,163

BULGARIA

Aug 9: Lokomotiv Plovdiv 1 Naftex 2
Aug 10: Lokomotiv Sofia 1 Rilski Sportist 1; Dobrudzha 0 Lovech 2; Chernomorets 3 Botev 0; Cherno More 0 Levski 0; Marek 0 Slavia 3; CSKA 3 Spartak Varna 1.

BULGARIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chernomorets	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Slavia	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
CSKA	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Lovech	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Naftex	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Lok Sofia	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Rilski Sportist	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Cherno More	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Levski	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Lok Plovdiv	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Spartak Varna	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Dobrudzha	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Botev	1	0	0	1	0	3	0
Marek	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

CROATIA

July 24: Kamen Ingrad 1 Slaven 0.
July 26: Zagreb 1 Osijek 1.
July 27: Rijeka 3 Zadar 1; Sibenik 3 Pomorac 1; Cibalia 1 Dinamo 1.
July 28: Varteks 0 Hajduk 1.
Aug 3: Pomorac 1 Kamen Ingrad 1; Zadar 0 Sibenik 0; Zagreb 1 Varteks 0; Hajduk 2 Rijeka 1.
Aug 4: Slaven 2 Cibalia 3; Osijek 1 Dinamo 5.
Aug 10: Varteks 2 Osijek 0; Rijeka 3 Zagreb 2; Sibenik 0 Hajduk 1; Kamen Ingrad 1 Zadar 1; Cibalia 1 Pomorac 1.
Aug 12: Dinamo 1 Slaven 0.

CROATIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hajduk	3	3	0	0	4	1	9
Dinamo	3	2	1	0	7	2	7
Rijeka	3	2	0	1	7	5	6
Cibalia	3	1	2	0	5	4	5
Kamen Ingrad	3	1	2	0	3	2	5
Sibenik	3	1	1	1	3	2	4
Zagreb	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
Varteks	3	1	0	2	2	2	3
Pomorac	3	0	2	1	3	5	2
Zadar	3	0	2	1	2	4	2
Osijek	3	0	1	2	2	8	1
Slaven	3	0	0	3	2	5	0

CZECH REPUBLIC

July 24: Sparta 1 Teplice 0.
July 27: Sigma Olomouc 0 Liberec 0.
July 28: Chmel Blsany 1 Zizkov 1; Zlin 1 Ostrava 1; Pribram 0 Brno 0; Bohemians 2 Ceske Budejovice 3.
July 29: Hradec Kralove 1 Slavia 1.
July 31: Jablonec 2 Synot 1.
Aug 3: Ceske Budejovice 1 Sparta 3.
Aug 4: Jablonec 1 Pribram 0; Chmel Blsany 1 Hradec Kralove 0; Synot 1 Olomouc 1; Brno 0 Liberec 1; Ostrava 5 Teplice 1; Zizkov 1 Zlin 0.
Aug 5: Slavia 4 Bohemians 1.
Aug 10: Liberec 2 Synot 0; Sparta 3 Ostrava 0.
Aug 11: Hradec Kralove 2 Zizkov 3; Zlin 1 Jablonec 1; Olomouc 1 Chmel Blsany 0; Bohemians 2 Brno 3; Teplice 2 Ceske Budejovice 1.

CZECH REPUBLIC

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sparta	3	3	0	0	7	1	9
Liberec	3	2	1	0	3	0	7
Zizkov	3	2	1	0	5	3	7
Jablonec	3	2	1	0	4	2	7
Olomouc	3	1	2	0	2	1	5
Slavia	2	1	1	0	5	2	4
Ostrava	3	1	1	1	6	5	4
Brno	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
Chmel Blsany	3	1	1	1	2	2	4
Ceske Budejovice	3	1	0	2	5	7	3
Teplice	3	1	0	2	3	7	3
Zlin	3	0	2	1	2	3	2
Pribram	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Hradec Kralove	3	0	1	2	3	5	1
Synot	3	0	1	2	2	5	1
Bohemians	3	0	0	3	5	10	0

DENMARK

July 27: Silkeborg 0 Brondby 3.
July 28: Esbjerg 1 AaB 2; AB 2 Koge 2; OB 2 Midtjylland 0; FC Copenhagen 2 Viborg 2; AGF 2 Farum 0.
Aug 3: Brondby 1 AB 3.
Aug 4: Farum 3 Viborg 2; Midtjylland 2 AaB 0; Koge 1 FC Copenhagen 3; OB 2 Silkeborg 2; AGF 2 Esbjerg 2.
Aug 10: AaB 3 Brondby 1.
Aug 11: Esbjerg 3 Koge 4; AB 0 OB 4; FC Copenhagen 2 Farum 1; Silkeborg 1 AGF 0; Viborg 1 Midtjylland 1.

DENMARK

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
OB	3	2	1	0	8	2	7
FC Copenhagen	3	2	1	0	7	4	7
AaB	3	2	0	1	5	4	6
AGF	3	1	1	1	4	3	4
Midtjylland	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
Koge	3	1	1	1	7	8	4
AB	3	1	1	1	5	7	4
Silkeborg	3	1	1	1	3	5	4
Brondby	3	1	0	2	5	6	3
Farum	3	1	0	2	4	6	3
Viborg	3	0	2	1	5	6	2
Esbjerg	3	0	1	2	6	8	1

ENGLAND

COMMUNITY SHIELD

Aug 11 - Cardiff
Arsenal 1 (Gilberto Silva 68)
Liverpool 0
HT: 0-0. **Att:** 67,337. **Ref:** Wiley

FRANCE

Friday, August 2

Guingamp 3 (Carnot 24, Bardon 89, Drogba 90)
Lyon 3 (Juninho 3, Chanelet 37, Anderson 51) Att: 14,000

Saturday, August 3

Bastia 1 (Essien 61)
Lens 1 (Sibierski pen 76) Att: 9,939

Lille 0
Bordeaux 3 (Pauleta 22, Smertin 55, Eduardo Costa 58) Att: 17,233

Marseille 0
Nantes 2 (Yepes 62, Berson 90) Att: 5,000

Montpellier 1 (Silvestre pen 88)
Rennes 0 Att: 12,692

Nice 1 (Diawara 65)
Le Havre 2 (Ciechielski 8, Fauconnier 82) Att: 10,707

Paris SG 1 (Aloisio pen 50)
Auxerre 0 Att: 41,077

Sedan 0
Sochaux 0 Att: 10,000

Strasbourg 1 (Bobin og 6)
Ajaccio 1 (Collin 30) Att: 18,334

Troyes 0
Monaco 4 (Nonda 40, 65, Giuly 42, Gallardo 87) Att: 11,856

Thursday, August 8

Auxerre 2 (Cisse 73, Mwaruwari 89)
Montpellier 0 Att: 14,000

Friday, August 9

Bordeaux 0
Paris SG 0 Att: 32,500

Saturday, August 10

Ajaccio 0
Guingamp 2 (Drogba 2, Bardon pen 70) Att: 1,000

Le Havre 0
Lille 0 Att: 11,343

Lens 1 (Keita 61)
Sochaux 1 (Raschke 34) Att: 36,971

Lyon 6 (Juninho 43, 69, Cacapa 45, Anderson 65, 82, Luyindula 90)
Sedan 1 (Camara 8) Att: 36,918

Monaco 0
Marseille 1 (Fernando 54) Att: 18,500

Nantes 1 (Berson 86)
Bastia 0 Att: 33,000

Nice 4 (Diawara 10, 38, 55, Cobos 90)
Strasbourg 0 Att: 9,100

Rennes 0
Troyes 0 Att: 17,104

FRANCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nantes	2	2	0	0	3	0	6
Lyon	2	1	1	0	9	4	4
Bordeaux	2	1	1	0	3	0	4
Guingamp	2	1	1	0	5	3	4
Le Havre	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Paris SG	2	1	1	0	1	0	4
Nice	2	1	0	1	5	2	3
Monaco	2	1	0	1	4	1	3
Auxerre	2	1	0	1	2	1	3
Marseille	2	1	0	1	1	2	3
Montpellier	2	1	0	1	1	2	3
Lens	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Sochaux	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Bastia	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Rennes	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Ajaccio	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Lille	2	0	1	1	0	3	1
Strasbourg	2	0	1	1	1	5	1
Troyes	2	0	1	1	0	4	1
Sedan	2	0	1	1	1	6	1

LEADING GOALSCORERS
4 Kaba Diawara (Nice)
3 Sonny Anderson (Lyon)
3 Juninho Pernambucano (Lyon)

CHAMPIONS' TROPHY

July 27 - Cannes
Lyon 5 (Govou 9, 24, 74, Dhorasoo 41, Luyindula 80)
Lorient 1 (Loko 27)
HT: 3-1. **Ref:** Coue

GERMANY

Friday, August 9

Borussia Dortmund 2 (Frings 4, Ewerthon 36)
Hertha 2 (Goor 1, Neuendorf 85) Att: 67,000

Saturday, August 10

Energie Cottbus 1 (Sebok 79)
Bayer Leverkusen 1 (Simak 64) Att: 13,750

Monchengladbach 0
Bayern Munich 0 Att: 34,500

Nurnberg 1 (Ciric 51)
Bochum 3 (Christiansen 6, 20, Hashemian 83) Att: 31,000

Schalke 1 (Vermant 90)
Wolfsburg 0 Att: 58,645

Stuttgart 1 (Dundee 45)
Kaiserslautern 1 (Klose 52) Att: 23,000

Sunday, August 11

Arminia Bielefeld 3 (Reinhardt 16, Wichniarek 89, Porcello 90)
Werder Bremen 0 Att: 26,500

Hamburg 2 (Albertz pen 82, 84)
Hannover 1 (Zuraw 6) Att: 52,139

Wednesday, August 14

1860 Munich 0
Hansa Rostock 2 (Vorbeck 44, Lantz 54) Att: 22,800

GERMANY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Arminia Bielefeld	1	1	0	0	3	0	3
Bochum	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Hansa Rostock	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Hamburg	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Schalke	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
B Dortmund	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Hertha	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
B Leverkusen	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Energie Cottbus	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Kaiserslautern	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Stuttgart	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Bayern Munich	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Monchengladbach	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Hannover	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Wolfsburg	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Nurnberg	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
1860 Munich	1	0	0	1	0	2	0
Werder Bremen	1	0	0	1	0	3	0

LEADING GOALSCORERS
2 Jorg Albertz (Hamburg)
2 Thomas Christiansen (Bochum)

LEAGUE CUP – FINAL

Aug 1 - Bochum
Schalke 1 (Agali 61)
Hertha 4 (Marcelinho 32, pen 84, Alves 33, Pinto 89)
HT: 0-2. **Att:** 11,200. **Ref:** Strampe

HOLLAND

SUPER CUP

Aug 11 - Amsterdam
Ajax 3 (Van der Vaart 41, 76, Hossam 54)
PSV 1 (Kezman 10)
HT: 1-1. **Att:** 40,000. **Ref:** Van Hulten

HUNGARY

July 26: MTK 3 Videoton 1.
July 27: Kispest-Honved 3 Zalaegerszeg 3; Dunaferr 3 Ujpest 1; Matav 1 Debrecen 2; Bekescsaba 2 Gyor 4; Siofok 0 Ferencvaros 2.
Aug 2: Ujpest 1 MTK 2.
Aug 3: Ferencvaros 4 Kispest-Honved 0; Gyor 2 Matav 0; Siofok 1 Videoton 1; Debrecen 3 Dunaferr 2.
Aug 9: Videoton 1 Ujpest 2.
Aug 10: Dunaferr 1 Gyor 2; Bekescsaba 0 Ferencvaros 2; MTK 4 Debrecen 3; Kispest-Honved 1 Siofok 2.

HUNGARY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Ferencvaros	3	3	0	0	8	0	9
Gyor	3	3	0	0	8	3	9
MTK	3	3	0	0	9	5	9
Debrecen	3	2	0	1	8	7	6
Siofok	3	1	1	1	3	4	4
Dunaferr	3	1	0	2	6	6	3
Ujpest	3	1	0	2	4	6	3
Zalaegerszeg	1	0	1	0	3	3	1
Videoton	3	0	1	2	3	6	1
Kispest-Honved	3	0	1	2	4	9	1
Matav	2	0	0	2	1	4	0
Bekescsaba	2	0	0	2	2	6	0

NORWAY

July 20: Molde 0 Odd Grenland 0; Moss 0 Brann 1.
July 21: Bryne 4 Bodo/Glimt 3; Lillestrom 0 Lyn 1; Valerenga 0 Stabaek 2.
July 22: Rosenborg 0 Viking 2.
July 28: Lillestrom 2 Bryne 1; Odd Grenland 2 Moss 0; Sogndal 2 Valerenga 0; Stabaek 2 Bodo/Glimt 1; Viking 0 Molde 0.
July 29: Lyn 2 Rosenborg 3.
July 31: Bodo/Glimt 2 Start 0; Sogndal 2 Molde 1; Stabaek 3 Moss 2.
Aug 1: Viking 0 Lyn 0; Brann 2 Rosenborg 3.
Aug 4: Bodo/Glimt 2 Sogndal 1; Bryne 2 Stabaek 1; Molde 2 Lyn 0; Moss 2 Viking 2; Rosenborg 3 Lillestrom 1; Start 2 Odd Grenland 0.
Aug 5: Valerenga 1 Brann 1.
Aug 10: Lillestrom 0 Molde 2.
Aug 11: Lyn 0 Moss 1; Odd Grenland 1 Valerenga 3; Rosenborg 3 Bryne 2; Sogndal 2 Stabaek 0; Viking 4 Start 1.
Aug 12: Brann 1 Bodo/Glimt 3.
Aug 14: Start 0 Sogndal 3; Valerenga 1 Bryne 1.

NORWAY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rosenborg	18	11	3	4	38	23	36
Lyn	18	11	2	5	24	20	35
Molde	18	10	4	4	29	14	34
Viking	18	8	7	3	34	21	31
Stabaek	18	9	4	5	32	22	31
Odd Grenland	18	9	2	7	26	23	29
Valerenga	18	6	7	5	29	22	25
Bodo/Glimt	18	7	3	8	29	25	24
Brann	17	6	3	8	24	30	21
Sogndal	18	6	2	10	25	35	20
Bryne	18	5	4	9	25	33	19
Moss	18	4	5	9	20	31	17
Lillestrom	18	4	4	10	16	27	16
Start	17	2	4	11	16	41	10

POLAND

Aug 2: Lech 2 KSZO 0.
Aug 3: Polonia 2 Amica 0; Wisla P 1 Katowice 1; Widzew 0 Odra 0; Ruch C 0 Gornik 0; Zaglebie 5 Pogon 0; Groclin 3 Legia 3.
Aug 4: Garbarnia 1 Wisla K 1.
Aug 9: Wisla K 5 Ruch C 2.
Aug 10: Amica 1 Legia 1; Pogon 1 Groclin 2; Gornik 3 Zaglebie 2; KSZO 3 Garbarnia 1; Odra 2 Lech 1; Polonia 3 Wisla P 1.
Aug 11: Katowice 1 Widzew 0.

POLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Polonia	2	2	0	0	5	1	6
Wisla K	2	1	1	0	6	3	4
Groclin	2	1	1	0	5	4	4
Gornik	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Katowice	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Odra	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Zaglebie	2	1	0	1	7	3	3
Lech	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
KSZO	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Legia	2	0	2	0	4	4	2
Widzew	2	0	1	1	0	1	1
Garbarnia	2	0	1	1	2	4	1
Wisla P	2	0	1	1	2	4	1
Amica	2	0	1	1	1	3	1
Ruch C	2	0	1	1	2	5	1
Pogon	2	0	0	2	1	7	0

RUSSIA

July 20: Uralan 3 Zenit 3; Shinnik 2 Spartak 2.
July 23: Lokomotiv M 0 Anzhi 0; Shinnik 1 CSKA 1; Rostselmash 0 Torpedo M 1; Saturn 2 Sokol 1.
July 24: Kryliya Sovetov 1 Rotor 0; Alaniya 1 Zenit 0; Uralan 1 Dinamo 3; Spartak 2 Torpedo-ZIL 1.
July 28: CSKA 0 Lokomotiv M 1.
July 29: Anzhi 0 Shinnik 1; Rotor 0 Rostselmash 0; Sokol 2 Uralan 0; Dinamo 1 Saturn 1.
July 30: Torpedo M 4 Kryliya Sovetov 3; Zenit 0 Spartak 1; Torpedo-ZIL 0 Alaniya 0.
Aug 3: Lokomotiv M 1 Torpedo M 0; Shinnik 1 Rotor 0; Rostselmash 2 Anzhi 0; Kryliya Sovetov 0 CSKA 2; Spartak 1 Dinamo 0; Uralan 1 Torpedo-ZIL 0; Alaniya 3 Sokol 2; Saturn 1 Zenit 2.
Aug 7: Spartak 2 Anzhi 1; Rotor 0 Lokomotiv M 2.
Aug 9: CSKA 5 Rostselmash 1.
Aug 10: Torpedo M 2 Shinnik 0; Zenit 2 Uralan 1; Dinamo 0 Alaniya 1.
Aug 11: Anzhi 0 Kryliya Sovetov 2; Sokol 2 Spartak 2; Torpedo-ZIL 0 Saturn 0.
Aug 13: Rostselmash 3 CSKA 2.

RUSSIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Lokomotiv M	20	13	6	1	28	8	45
Spartak	21	13	4	4	37	26	43
CSKA	19	12	3	4	37	17	39
Kryliya Sovetov	19	9	3	7	25	23	30
Saturn	19	8	6	5	24	22	30
Shinnik	20	8	5	7	28	26	29
Zenit	19	8	4	7	26	24	28
Dinamo	19	8	2	9	22	18	26
Rotor	19	7	4	8	15	17	25
Torpedo M	19	6	5	8	25	23	23
Alaniya	19	6	4	9	25	29	22
Uralan	20	4	9	7	25	29	21
Rostselmash	19	5	4	10	20	35	19
Anzhi	20	3	8	9	15	31	17
Torpedo-ZIL	19	3	7	9	13	27	16
Sokol	19	2	6	11	14	24	12

SCOTLAND

Saturday, August 3

Celtic 2 (Larsson 41, 66)
Dunfermline 1 (Dempsey 74) Att: 57,415

Dundee 1 (Caballero 65)
Hearts 1 (Wales 33) Att: 7,705

Hibernian 1 (Luna 31)
Aberdeen 2 (Mackie 64, Clark 90) Att: 13,340

Kilmarnock 1 (McLaren 80)
Rangers 1 (Arveladze 30) Att: 13,972

Livingston 3 (Rubio 8, Zarate 34, 47)
Motherwell 2 (Leitch 50, Lehmann 64) Att: 7,124

Partick 0
Dundee Utd 0 Att: 6,375

Saturday, August 10

Aberdeen 0
Celtic 4 (Mjallby 5, Sutton 34, Sylla 53, Lambert 66) Att: 17,824

Dundee Utd 1 (Thompson 71)
Kilmarnock 2 (Dargo 78, Boyd 82) Att: 6,366

Dunfermline 2 (Crawford 28, Brewster 50)
Livingston 1 (Xausa 90) Att: 4,751

Motherwell 1 (Pearson 83)
Partick 1 (Burns 81) Att: 5,788

Rangers 3 (De Boer 12, Arveladze 67, Lovenkrands 88)
Dundee 0 Att: 47,044

Sunday, August 11

Hearts 5 (Kirk 18, De Vries 40, 66, 90, 90)
Hibernian 1 (Murray 51) Att: 15,245

SCOTLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Celtic	2	2	0	0	6	1	6
Hearts	2	1	1	0	6	2	4
Rangers	2	1	1	0	4	1	4
Kilmarnock	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Livingston	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Dunfermline	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Aberdeen	2	1	0	1	2	5	3
Partick	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Motherwell	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Dundee Utd	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Dundee	2	0	1	1	1	4	1
Hibernian	2	0	0	2	2	7	0

LEADING GOALSCORERS
4 Mark De Vries (Hearts)
2 Shota Arveladze (Rangers)
2 Henrik Larsson (Celtic)
2 Rolando Zarate (Livingston)

SWEDEN

July 21: Sundsvall 1 Orgryte 1; Landskrona 1 Kalmar 3.
July 22: Halmstads 1 AIK 1; Elfsborg 2 Norrkoping 2; Orebro 2 Hammarby 1.
July 23: IFK Gothenburg 0 Malmo 4.
July 24: Djurgardens 1 Helsingborgs 1.
July 27: Hammarby 3 Sundsvall 1.
July 28: Kalmar 0 Orebro 1.
July 29: Malmo 2 Landskrona 1; AIK 3 IFK Gothenburg 0; Norrkoping 0 Djurgardens 1.
July 30: Orgryte 4 Elfsborg 1.
July 31: Helsingborgs 0 Halmstads 0.
Aug 3: Norrkoping 1 Hammarby 1.
Aug 4: Djurgardens 1 Kalmar 0; Elfsborg 2 Malmo 1; Orgryte 2 Helsingborgs 2.
Aug 5: Sundsvall 1 AIK 1; Landskrona 1 IFK Gothenburg 2; Orebro 3 Halmstads 1.
Aug 7: Kalmar 1 Orgryte 3; Malmo 3 Norrkoping 2.
Aug 8: AIK 0 Djurgardens 3; Halmstads 0 Elfsborg 1; IFK Gothenburg 0 Sundsvall 0; Landskrona 3 Orebro 1.
Aug 10: Orgryte 1 Hammarby 1.
Aug 11: Djurgardens 3 Malmo 4; Elfsborg 0 AIK 1; Orebro 2 IFK Gothenburg 0.
Aug 12: Sundsvall 3 Halmstads 2; Helsingborgs 2 Landskrona 3; Norrkoping 5 Kalmar 1.

SWEDEN

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Malmo	15	10	0	5	34	21	30
Orgryte	15	8	6	1	30	20	30
Landskrona	15	7	4	4	33	23	25
Djurgardens	15	7	4	4	26	19	25
Orebro	15	7	4	4	19	19	25
IFK Gothenburg	15	6	2	7	14	20	20
Sundsvall	15	4	7	4	15	15	19
Helsingborgs	14	5	4	5	19	21	19
AIK	15	4	6	5	21	24	18
Elfsborg	15	4	5	6	14	20	17
Norrkoping	15	3	5	7	17	19	14
Hammarby	14	3	5	6	23	26	14
Kalmar	15	3	4	8	9	21	13
Halmstads	15	1	8	6	12	18	11

SWITZERLAND

July 20: Aarau 2 Neuchatel Xamax 0; Grasshopper 2 Servette 0; Thun 0 St Gallen 1; Basle 1 Delemont 0.
July 21: Wil 1900 3 Young Boys 2.
July 27: St Gallen 1 Basle 1; Neuchatel Xamax 1 Grasshopper 5; Servette 2 Lucerne 0; Young Boys 1 Aarau 0.
July 28: Delemont 1 Wil 1900 2.
July 31: Lucerne 1 Zurich 3.
Aug 3: Aarau 1 St Gallen 1; Grasshopper 4 Young Boys 0; Basle 4 Servette 2; Neuchatel Xamax 0 Delemont 1.
Aug 4: Thun 3 Lucerne 1; Wil 1900 0 Zurich 1.
Aug 7: Zurich 0 Thun 1.
Aug 10: St Gallen 2 Wil 1900 2; Lucerne 1 Grasshopper 0; Servette 3 Thun 1; Young Boys 1 Neuchatel Xamax 1; Zurich 0 Basle 4.
Aug 11: Delemont 2 Aarau 1.

SWITZERLAND

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Grasshopper	7	6	0	1	20	6	18
Basle	7	4	3	0	13	5	15
Zurich	7	4	0	3	11	9	12
Wil 1900	7	3	2	2	13	11	11
St Gallen	7	2	3	2	10	9	9
Thun	7	3	0	4	10	11	9
Servette	7	3	0	4	10	12	9
Delemont	7	3	0	4	6	8	9
Young Boys	7	2	3	2	11	14	9
Neuchatel X	7	1	3	3	6	12	6
Aarau	7	1	1	5	6	12	4
Lucerne*	7	2	1	4	8	15	3

**4pts deducted for licence application irregularities*

TURKEY

Aug 9: Trabzonspor 0 Fenerbahce 0.
Aug 10: Ankaragucu 1 Malatyaspor 1; Bursaspor 2 Besiktas 2; Diyarbakirspor 1 Altay 1; Istanbulspor 2 Adanaspor 2.
Aug 11: Galatasaray 4 Samsunspor 1; Gaziantepspor 1 Denizlispor 1; Goztepe 2 Elazigspor 1; Kocaelispor 1 Genclerbirligi 3.

TURKEY

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Galatasaray	1	1	0	0	4	1	3
Genclerbirligi	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Goztepe	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Adanaspor	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Besiktas	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Bursaspor	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Istanbulspor	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Altay	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Ankaragucu	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Denizlispor	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Diyarbakirspor	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Gaziantepspor	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Malatyaspor	1	0	1	0	1	1	1
Fenerbahce	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Trabzonspor	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Elazigspor	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Kocaelispor	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Samsunspor	1	0	0	1	1	4	0

UKRAINE

July 21: Metalurh D 2 Metalurh M 0; Obolon 1 Dnipro 3.
July 22: Dynamo 5 Metalurh Z 2; Poligraftekhnika 2 Chornomorets 1; Vorskla 1 Metalist 0; Kryvbas 0 Arsenal 1; Volyn-1 1 Tavriya 0; Karpaty 2 Shakhtar 4.
July 26: Shakhtar 1 Dynamo 0.
July 27: Dnipro 1 Poligraftekhnika 1; Chornomorets 0 Metalurh D 1; Metalurh M 2 Karpaty 3; Metalist 1 Obolon 1; Arsenal 2 Vorskla 1; Tavriya 4 Kryvbas 2; Metalurh Z 1 Volyn-1 0.
Aug 4: Volyn-1 2 Shakhtar 0; Kryvbas 0 Metalurh Z 0; Vorskla 1 Tavriya 0; Obolon 0 Arsenal 2; Poligraftekhnika 1 Metalist 1; Metalurh D 1 Dnipro 3; Metalurh M 2 Chornomorets 0.

UKRAINE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Dnipro	6	4	2	0	11	4	14
Arsenal	6	4	1	1	14	5	13
Shakhtar	6	4	1	1	11	6	13
Metalurh D	6	4	1	1	9	5	13
Dynamo	5	4	0	1	12	5	12
Volyn-1	6	3	0	3	6	11	9
Metalurh M	6	2	2	2	9	7	8
Karpaty	5	2	2	1	7	7	8
Poligraftekhnika	6	1	4	1	5	6	7
Vorskla	6	2	0	4	5	9	6
Kryvbas	6	1	2	3	6	8	5
Obolon	6	1	2	3	5	8	5
Metalist	6	1	2	3	4	8	5
Metalurh Z	6	1	2	3	4	8	5
Tavriya	6	1	1	4	8	12	4
Chornomorets	6	1	0	5	3	10	3

YUGOSLAVIA

Aug 8: OFK 0 Obilic 1.
Aug 10: Zeleznik 1 Rad 0; Sartid 2 Cukaricki 2; Zemun 1 Radnicki 0 0; Partizan 5 Hajduk K 1; Rudar P 1 Javor 2; Vojvodina 1 Zeta 0; Sutjeska 0 Mogren 0; Radnicki N 0 Red Star 0.

YUGOSLAVIA

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Partizan	1	1	0	0	5	1	3
Javor	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Obilic	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Vojvodina	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Zeleznik	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Zemun	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Cukaricki	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Sartid	1	0	1	0	2	2	1
Mogren	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Radnicki N	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Red Star	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Sutjeska	1	0	1	0	0	0	1
Rudar P	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
OFK	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Rad	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Radnicki O	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Zeta	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Hajduk K	1	0	0	1	1	5	0

SOUTH AMERICA

LIBERTADORES CUP

Final, 1st leg

July 24 - Estadio de los Defensores del Chaco, Asuncion
Olimpia (Par) 0
Sao Caetano (Bra) 1 (Ailton 61)
HT: 0-0. **Ref:** Elizondo (Arg)
Olimpia: Tavarelli - Isasi (V Caceres 66), Zelaya, Da Silva, J C Caceres, Enciso, Baez (Caballero 60), M A Benitez, Cordoba (Lopez 68), Franco, Orteman.
Sao Caetano: Silvio Luiz - Russo, Daniel, Dininho, Marcos Senna, Rubens Cardoso, Robert (Serginho 62), Ailton (Marlon 65), Somalia, Anailson (Wagner 80), Adaozinho.

Final, 2nd leg

July 31 - Paulo Machado de Carvalho stadium, Sao Paulo
Sao Caetano 1 (Ailton 31)
Olimpia 2 (Cordoba 49, Baez 59)
HT: 1-0. **Att:** 32,000. **Ref:** Ruiz (Col)
Agg 2-2. Olimpia 4-2 on pens
Sao Caetano: Silvio Luiz - Russo, Daniel, Dininho, Rubens Cardoso, Marcos Senna, Robert (Serginho 60), Ailton (Wagner 79), Adaozinho, Anailson (Marlon 90), Somalia.
Olimpia: Tavarelli - Isasi, J C Caceres, Zelaya, Da Silva, Quintana, Enciso, Orteman, Cordoba (Caballero 73), Baez (Franco 81), M A Benitez (Lopez 61). *Sent off: Quintana 86min.*

ARGENTINA

OPENING CHAMPIONSHIP

Friday, July 26

Rosario Central 1 (Delgado 88)
San Lorenzo 0

Saturday, July 27

Estudiantes 1 (Pavone 36)
Colon Santa Fe 1 (Carignano 50)

Independiente 2 (Silvera 88, Eluchans 90)
Lanus 0

Sunday, July 28

Arsenal 1 (Piersimone 24)
Olimpo 0

Huracan 1 (Ubeda og 72)
Racing Club 3 (Ubeda 24, Estevez 51, Rivarola 63)

Nueva Chicago 0
Boca Juniors 0

River Plate 0
Newell's Old Boys 0

Talleres Cordoba 0
Gimnasia LP 0

Union Santa Fe 0
Banfield 0

Tuesday, July 30

Chacarita Juniors 0
Velez Sarsfield 0

Friday, August 2

Racing Club 1 (Bastia 69)
Arsenal 1 (Piersimone 68)

Saturday, August 3

Newell's Old Boys 1 (Liendo 90)
Huracan 0

San Lorenzo 1 (Acosta 57)
Nueva Chicago 0

Sunday, August 4

Banfield 0
Estudiantes 0

Boca Juniors 3 (Gonzalez 10, Tevez 57, Bracamonte 61)
Union Santa Fe 0

Colon Santa Fe 3 (Martinez 2, Carignano 27, 89)
Chacarita Juniors 1 (Mignini 14)

Gimnasia LP 1 (Choy 90)
Independiente 1 (Dominguez 26)

Lanus 1 (Rodriguez 24)
Rosario Central 6 (Ferrari pen 14, 32, Quinteros 57, 79, Figueroa 65, Delgado 86)

Velez Sarsfield 0
River Plate 1 (Alvarez 34)

Tuesday, August 6

Olimpo 0
Talleres Cordoba 0

Wednesday, August 7

Banfield 0
Boca Juniors 1 (Battaglia 40)

Friday, August 9

Union Santa Fe 3 (Capria pen 32, Perezlindo 47, 75)
San Lorenzo 1 (Rodriguez 56)

Saturday, August 10

Huracan 0
Velez Sarsfield 4 (Dudar 4, Nanni pen 45, Gracian 70, Husain 86)

Independiente 3 (Castagno Suarez 41, Insua 62, Dominguez 70)
Olimpo 1 (Diaz og 12)

Sunday, August 11

Arsenal 1 (Gonzalez 35)
Newell's Old Boys 2 (Marino 50, Ponzio 78)

Estudiantes 0
Chacarita Juniors 1 (Romero 58)

Nueva Chicago 1 (Santana 19)
Lanus 0

River Plate 1 (Lopez 33)
Colon Santa Fe 0

Rosario Central 5 (Goux og 24, Ferrari pen 59, Mandra 73, Delgado 87, Barros Schelotto 90)
Gimnasia LP 2 (Madrid 5, Arce 72)

Talleres Cordoba 2 (Rimoldi 53, Real 85)
Racing Club 0

ARGENTINA – OPENING

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Rosario Central	3	3	0	0	12	3	9
Independiente	3	2	1	0	6	2	7
Boca Juniors	3	2	1	0	4	0	7
Newell's OB	3	2	1	0	3	1	7
River Plate	3	2	1	0	2	0	7
Talleres Cordoba	3	1	2	0	2	0	5
Velez Sarsfield	3	1	1	1	4	1	4
Colon Santa Fe	3	1	1	1	4	3	4
Racing Club	3	1	1	1	4	4	4
Arsenal	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
Nueva Chicago	3	1	1	1	1	1	4
Union Santa Fe	3	1	1	1	3	4	4
Chacarita Jnrs	3	1	1	1	2	3	4
San Lorenzo	3	1	0	2	2	4	3
Estudiantes	3	0	2	1	1	2	2
Banfield	3	0	2	1	0	1	2
Gimnasia LP	3	0	2	1	3	6	2
Olimpo	3	0	1	2	1	4	1
Huracan	3	0	0	3	1	8	0
Lanus	3	0	0	3	1	9	0

LEADING GOALSCORERS
3 Cesar Carignano (Colon Santa Fe)
3 Cesar Delgado (Rosario Central)
3 Pablo Ferrari (Rosario Central)

BOLIVIA

CLOSING CHAMPIONSHIP

Aug 3: Mariscal Braun 0 The Strongest 2.
Aug 4: Blooming 7 San Jose 2; Real Potosi 2 Jorge Wilstermann 0; Guabira 1 Independiente 1; Union Central 0 Oriente 0; Iberoamericana 1 Bolivar 3.
Aug 11: Iberoamericana 0 Mariscal Braun 2; Bolivar 5 Union Central 1; Oriente 1 Guabira 1; Independiente 1 Real Potosi 1; Jorge Wilstermann 6 Blooming 1; San Jose 2 The Strongest 1.
Aug 14: Union Central 3 Iberoamericana 0; Guabira 2 Bolivar 2; Blooming 3 Independiente 1; The Strongest 2 Jorge Wilstermann 2; Mariscal Braun 1 San Jose 1.

BOLIVIA – CLOSING

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Bolivar	3	2	1	0	10	4	7
Blooming	3	2	0	1	11	9	6
J Wilstermann	3	1	1	1	8	5	4
Real Potosi	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
The Strongest	3	1	1	1	5	4	4
Mariscal Braun	3	1	1	1	3	3	4
Union Central	3	1	1	1	4	5	4
San Jose	3	1	1	1	5	9	4
Guabira	3	0	3	0	4	4	3
Oriente	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Independiente	3	0	2	1	3	5	2
Iberoamericana	3	0	0	3	1	8	0

BRAZIL

NATIONAL CHAMPIONSHIP

Aug 10: Vasco da Gama 2 Figueirense 0; Sao Paulo 4 Paysandu 2; Parana 2 Sao Caetano 1; Santos 2 Botafogo (Rio) 1; Goias 3 Portuguesa 1.
Aug 11: Fluminense 5 Cruzeiro 1; Palmeiras 1 Gremio 1; Atletico Mineiro 1 Corinthians 2; Internacional 1 Flamengo 3; Guarani 2 Atletico Paranaense 1; Coritiba 1 Vitoria 0; Bahia 1 Gama 0; Juventude 1 Ponte Preta 0.
Aug 14: Sao Caetano 2 Fluminense 0; Botafogo (Rio) 1 Atletico Mineiro 1; Cruzeiro 1 Palmeiras 1; Gremio 3 Vasco da Gama 2; Atletico Paranaense 4 Bahia 0; Figueirense 0 Guarani 0; Ponte Preta 2 Coritiba 0; Vitoria 4 Goias 1; Corinthians 3 Internacional 2; Flamengo 0 Juventude 0; Portuguesa 1 Parana 0; Gama 0 Sao Paulo 1.

BRAZIL – NATIONAL

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Corinthians	2	2	0	0	5	3	6
Gremio	2	1	1	0	4	3	4
Guarani	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
At Paranaense	2	1	0	1	5	2	3
Fluminense	2	1	0	1	5	3	3
Sao Paulo	1	1	0	0	4	2	3
Vitoria	2	1	0	1	4	2	3
Flamengo	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Vasco da Gama	2	1	0	1	4	3	3
Sao Caetano	2	1	0	1	3	2	3
Parana	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Ponte Preta	2	1	0	1	2	1	3
Santos	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Juventude	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Goias	2	1	0	1	4	5	3
Coritiba	2	1	0	1	1	2	3
Bahia	2	1	0	1	1	4	3
Palmeiras	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Atletico Mineiro	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Botafogo (Rio)	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Figueirense	2	0	1	1	0	2	1
Cruzeiro	2	0	1	1	2	6	1
Gama	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
Paysandu	1	0	0	1	2	4	0
Portuguesa	1	0	0	1	1	3	0
Internacional	2	0	0	2	3	6	0

CHILE

CLOSING CHAMPIONSHIP

Aug 3: Palestino 1 Cobreloa 3; U de Chile 4 Rangers 0; Coquimbo Unido 0 Colo Colo 1.
Aug 4: Dep Temuco 1 Audax Italiano 2; Huachipato 3 San Felipe 0; Cobresal 1 Santiago Morning 1; Union Espanola 2 Santiago Wanderers 0; U Catolica 2 Dep Concepcion 1.
Aug 10: Audax Italiano 1 Cobreloa 2; San Felipe 1 U de Chile 1; Dep Concepcion 1 Palestino 1.
Aug 11: Santiago Wanderers 2 Coquimbo Unido 1; Colo Colo 1 U Catolica 1; Rangers 1 Cobresal 2; Dep Temuco 0 Huachipato 3; Santiago Morning 1 Union Espanola 1.

GROUP A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Huachipato	2	2	0	0	6	0	6
Colo Colo	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Dep Concepcion	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Dep Temuco	2	0	0	2	1	5	0

GROUP B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Cobreloa	2	2	0	0	5	2	6
Cobresal	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
U Catolica	2	1	1	0	3	2	4
Audax Italiano	2	1	0	1	3	3	3

GROUP C

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sant Morning	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Palestino	2	0	1	1	2	4	1
Coquimbo Unido	2	0	0	2	1	3	0
Rangers	2	0	0	2	1	6	0

GROUP D

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
U de Chile	2	1	1	0	5	1	4
Union Espanola	2	1	1	0	3	1	4
Sant Wanderers	2	1	0	1	2	3	3
San Felipe	2	0	1	1	1	4	1

COLOMBIA

CLOSING CHAMPIONSHIP

July 7: America 0 Pereira 1; Millonarios 4 Bucaramanga 2; Once Caldas 1 Tulua 0; Quindio 1 Dep Cali 0; Indep Medellin 1 Envigado 0; At Junior 1 At Nacional 0; Real Cartagena 0 Magdalena 1; Dep Pasto 1 At Huila 0; Tolima 1 Indep Santa Fe 3.
July 14: Tulua 1 America 0; Dep Cali 0 Once Caldas 0; Pereira 1 Quindio 0; Envigado 1 At Junior 0; At Huila 2 Millonarios 1; Magdalena 2 Indep Medellin 1; Indep Santa Fe 3 Dep Pasto 1; At Nacional 0 Real Cartagena 0; Bucaramanga 1 Tolima 1.
July 21: Tulua 0 Dep Cali 0; Envigado 3 Magdalena 0; At Huila 1 Indep Santa Fe 2; Once Caldas 0 Pereira 0; Indep Medellin 0 At Nacional 0; Dep Pasto 4 Bucaramanga 3; America 1 Quindio 0; At Junior 1 Real Cartagena 1; Millonarios 3 Tolima 2.
July 28: Real Cartagena 2 Indep Medellin 1; Millonarios 0 Indep Santa Fe 2; America 1 Dep Cali 2; Pereira 3 Tulua 4; Quindio 1 Once Caldas 1; At Junior 3 Magdalena 0; At Nacional 3 Envigado 1; Bucaramanga 1 At Huila 0; Tolima 2 Dep Pasto 1.
Aug 4: Indep Santa Fe 2 Bucaramanga 3; Dep Cali 3 Pereira 0; Tulua 0 Quindio 1; Once Caldas 1 America 0; Dep Pasto 2 Millonarios 1; Envigado 0 Real Cartagena 1; Indep Medellin 0 At Junior 2; At Huila 1 Tolima 1; Magdalena 2 At Nacional 1.

COLOMBIA – CLOSING

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Indep Santa Fe	5	4	0	1	12	6	12
At Junior	5	3	1	1	7	2	10
Dep Pasto	5	3	0	2	9	9	9
Magdalena	5	3	0	2	5	8	9
Once Caldas	5	2	3	0	3	1	9
Dep Cali	5	2	2	1	5	2	8
Real Cartagena	5	2	2	1	4	3	8
Tulua	5	2	1	2	5	5	7
Quindio	5	2	1	2	3	3	7
Bucaramanga	5	2	1	2	10	11	7
Pereira	5	2	1	2	5	7	7
Envigado	5	2	0	3	5	5	6
Millonarios	5	2	0	3	9	10	6
At Nacional	5	1	2	2	4	4	5
Tolima	5	1	2	2	7	9	5
At Huila	5	1	1	3	4	6	4
Indep Medellin	5	1	1	3	3	6	4
America	5	1	0	4	2	5	3

ECUADOR

CLOSING CHAMPIONSHIP

July 19: Dep Cuenca 1 Olmedo 0.
July 20: Aucas 0 El Nacional 2.
July 21: Barcelona 0 Macara 0; Dep Quito 3 Espoli 0; LDU Quito 2 Emelec 2.
July 27: Emelec 2 Espoli 1.
July 28: El Nacional 1 Barcelona 1; LDU Quito 2 Aucas 1; Macara 2 Dep Cuenca 2; Olmedo 1 Dep Quito 1.
Aug 2: Dep Cuenca 3 El Nacional 2.
Aug 3: Espoli 4 Olmedo 0.
Aug 4: Barcelona 1 LDU Quito 2; Dep Quito 3 Macara 1; Aucas 2 Emelec 2.

ECUADOR – CLOSING

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
El Nacional	6	4	1	1	11	4	13
LDU Quito	6	4	1	1	10	5	13
Dep Quito	6	3	3	0	13	7	12
Dep Cuenca	6	3	2	1	9	8	11
Espoli	6	2	2	2	12	10	8
Emelec	6	1	3	2	9	11	6
Olmedo	6	1	2	3	4	9	5
Macara	6	1	2	3	4	11	5
Barcelona	6	0	3	3	6	9	3
Aucas	6	0	3	3	8	12	3

PARAGUAY

CLOSING CHAMPIONSHIP

July 19: Cerro Porteno 1 12 de Octubre 1.
July 20: Olimpia 0 Sport Colombia 1.
July 21: Recoleta 0 San Lorenzo 1; Sol de America 0 Sportivo Luqueno 1; Guarani 0 Libertad 1.
July 27: Olimpia 1 Guarani 2.
July 28: Sport Colombia 1 Cerro Porteno 3; 12 de Octubre 1 Recoleta 2; San Lorenzo 1 Sol de America 0; Sportivo Luqueno 1 Libertad 0.
Aug 3: Guarani 0 Sportivo Luqueno 2.
Aug 4: Cerro Porteno 2 Olimpia 3; Recoleta 2 Sport Colombia 1; Sol de America 1 12 de Octubre 0; Libertad 4 San Lorenzo 0.
Aug 9: Olimpia 3 Recoleta 1.
Aug 10: Cerro Porteno 0 Guarani 1.
Aug 11: Sport Colombia 3 Sol de America 3; San Lorenzo 0 Sportivo Luqueno 0; 12 de Octubre 1 Libertad 1.

PARAGUAY – CLOSING

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Libertad	6	3	2	1	8	2	11
Sportivo Luqueno	6	3	2	1	5	3	11
Guarani	6	3	1	2	7	6	10
San Lorenzo	6	3	1	2	4	8	10
Olimpia	6	3	0	3	11	9	9
Recoleta	6	3	0	3	8	9	9
Sport Colombia	6	2	2	2	9	10	8
Cerro Porteno	6	1	2	3	7	8	5
12 de Octubre	6	1	2	3	7	8	5
Sol de America	6	1	2	3	5	8	5

PERU

CLOSING CHAMPIONSHIP

July 21: Alianza Atletico 0 Sporting Cristal 3; Sport Boys 2 Dep Wanka 2; Universitario 1 Estudiantes 1; Cienciano 2 Alianza Lima 1; Melgar 1 Coronel Bolognesi 1; Coopsol Trujillo 1 Juan Aurich 0.
July 27: Coopsol Trujillo 0 Sporting Cristal 3; Sport Boys 4 Universitario 0.
July 28: Alianza Atletico 1 Juan Aurich 1; Coronel Bolognesi 1 Cienciano 2; Alianza Lima 3 Melgar 1; Estudiantes 1 Dep Wanka 1.
Aug 4: Sporting Cristal 2 Sport Boys 0; Juan Aurich 0 Estudiantes 1; Universitario 1 Alianza Lima 2; Melgar 0 Alianza Atletico 1; Cienciano 1 Coopsol Trujillo 1; Dep Wanka 1 Coronel Bolognesi 0.
Aug 10: Alianza Lima 0 Dep Wanka 0.
Aug 11: Sport Boys 4 Juan Aurich 0; Alianza Atletico 4 Cienciano 0; Coronel Bolognesi 2 Universitario 1; Estudiantes 1 Sporting Cristal 1; Coopsol Trujillo 1 Melgar 1.

PERU – CLOSING

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Sporting Cristal	5	4	1	0	14	1	13
Sport Boys	5	3	1	1	12	4	10
Alianza Lima	5	3	1	1	9	5	10
Estudiantes	5	2	3	0	6	3	9
Dep Wanka	5	1	4	0	5	4	7
Alianza Atetico	5	2	1	2	6	6	7
Cienciano	5	2	1	2	5	12	7
Coopsol Trujillo	5	1	2	2	4	8	5
Coronel Bolognesi	5	1	1	3	4	7	4
Universitario	5	1	1	3	5	10	4
Melgar	5	0	3	2	4	7	3
Juan Aurich	5	0	1	4	2	9	1

URUGUAY

OPENING CHAMPIONSHIP

July 20: Nacional 4 Danubio 1.
July 21: Penarol 3 Defensor 2; Fenix 4 Villa Espanola 2; Wanderers 2 Central Espanol 1; Plaza 1 Dep Maldonado 2.
July 26: Defensor 0 Wanderers 1.
July 27: Penarol 2 Fenix 1.
July 28: Nacional 2 Plaza 0; Danubio 4 Villa Espanola 1; Dep Maldonado 2 Central Espanol 1.
July 31: Nacional 2 Fenix 0.
Aug 3: Villa Espanola 1 Nacional 1; Central Espanol 1 Plaza 1.
Aug 4: Wanderers 1 Penarol 3; Fenix 3 Defensor 1; Danubio 0 Dep Maldonado 0.
Aug 9: Villa Espanola 0 Dep Maldonado 1.
Aug 10: Plaza 1 Penarol 3.
Aug 11: Wanderers 1 Danubio 1; Central Espanol 4 Defensor 1.

URUGUAY – OPENING

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Nacional	5	4	1	0	12	3	13
Dep Maldonado	5	4	1	0	8	4	13
Penarol	5	4	0	1	13	8	12
Wanderers	5	3	1	1	6	5	10
Fenix	5	3	0	2	9	7	9
Danubio	5	1	2	2	7	8	5
Central Espanol	5	1	1	3	8	9	4
Defensor	5	1	0	4	6	12	3
Plaza	5	0	1	4	3	9	1
Villa Espanola	5	0	1	4	4	11	1

VENEZUELA

OPENING CHAMPIONSHIP

Aug 4: Caracas 4 Mineros Guayana 1; Dep Tachira 1 Estudiantes 1; Trujillanos 2 Carabobo 1; Maracaibo 1 Nacional 2; Monagas 3 Ital-Chacao 2.
Aug 11: Monagas 0 Caracas 2; Ital-Chacao 1 Maracaibo 1; Nacional 2 Trujillanos 1; Carabobo 2 Dep Tachira 2; Estudiantes 1 Mineros Guayana 1.

VENEZUELA – OPENING

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Caracas	2	2	0	0	6	1	6
Nacional	2	2	0	0	4	2	6
Trujillanos	2	1	0	1	3	3	3
Monagas	2	1	0	1	3	4	3
Dep Tachira	2	0	2	0	3	3	2
Estudiantes	2	0	2	0	2	2	2
Carabobo	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Ital-Chacao	2	0	1	1	3	4	1
Maracaibo	2	0	1	1	2	3	1
Mineros Guayana	2	0	1	1	2	5	1

CENTRAL & NORTH AMERICA

MEXICO

OPENING CHAMPIONSHIP

Aug 3: At Celaya 0 Pumas UNAM 1; Toluca 3 Necaxa 0; Veracruz 3 Morelia 4; Cruz Azul 1 Tecos UAG 2; Jaguares 1 Tigres 3; Atlas 1 Santos 2; Monterrey 2 Atlante 0.
Aug 4: Gallos Blancos 1 San Luis 1; Puebla 1 Guadalajara 1.
Aug 10: Tecos UAG 3 At Celaya 2; Morelia 2 Monterrey 0; San Luis 1 Puebla 0.
Aug 11: Pumas UNAM 2 Veracruz 1; Pachuca 3 Jaguares 3; Guadalajara 0 America 1; Atlante 2 Toluca 3; Santos 0 Gallos Blancos 0; Necaxa 2 Atlas 3.

GROUP 1

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Toluca	2	2	0	0	6	2	6
America	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Atlas	2	1	0	1	4	4	3
Puebla	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
At Celaya	2	0	0	2	2	4	0

GROUP 2

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Tecos UAG	2	2	0	0	5	3	6
Pumas UNAM	2	2	0	0	3	1	6
Tigres	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Monterrey	2	1	0	1	2	2	3
Pachuca	1	0	1	0	3	3	1

GROUP 3

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Morelia	2	2	0	0	6	3	6
San Luis	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Jaguares	2	0	1	1	4	6	1
Cruz Azul	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Necaxa	2	0	0	2	2	6	0

GROUP 4

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Santos	2	1	1	0	2	1	4
Gallos Blancos	2	0	2	0	1	1	2
Guadalajara	2	0	1	1	1	2	1
Veracruz	2	0	0	2	4	6	0
Atlante	2	0	0	2	2	5	0

LEADING GOALSCORERS

4 Jose Cardozo (Toluca)
2 Juan Azconzabal (Tecos UAG)
2 Alex Fernandez (Morelia)
2 Carlos Maria Morales (Atlas)
2 Jorge Santillana (Tecos UAG)
2 Julio Yegros (Jaguares)

UNITED STATES

July 20: San Jose Earthquakes 4 Dallas Burn 0; Los Angeles Galaxy 2 Kansas City Wizards 2 (aet); MetroStars 4 New England Revolution 3; Columbus Crew 1 Colorado Rapids 1 (aet); Chicago Fire 0 DC United 0 (aet).
July 24: San Jose Earthquakes 1 Chicago Fire 0; New England Revolution 2 Colorado Rapids 3; Columbus Crew 1 DC United 0; Kansas City Wizards 1 MetroStars 3.
July 27: Los Angeles Galaxy 2 Columbus Crew 1; Chicago Fire 3 MetroStars 0; DC United 0 New England Revolution 1; Kansas City Wizards 2 San Jose Earthquakes 1; Colorado Rapids 2 Dallas Burn 2 (aet).
July 31: MetroStars 2 Columbus Crew 3; Chicago Fire 0 DC United 0 (aet); Dallas Burn 0 Kansas City Wizards 1.
Aug 10: Los Angeles Galaxy 2 New England Revolution 1; Dallas Burn 3 Chicago Fire 1; DC United 0 Kansas City Wizards 0 (aet); Colorado Rapids 2 Columbus Crew 1.
Aug 14: Columbus Crew 3 Los Angeles Galaxy 2; Chicago Fire 5 Kansas City Wizards 1.

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chicago Fire	22	9	4	9	36	29	31
Columbus Crew	23	9	4	10	34	37	31
MetroStars	21	9	2	10	35	34	29
New England	21	7	1	13	36	44	22
DC United	21	6	4	11	19	27	22

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
San Jose	21	12	2	7	34	20	38
Dallas Burn	21	9	7	5	31	28	34
LA Galaxy	21	10	3	8	31	30	33
Colorado Rapids	22	10	3	9	33	37	33
Kansas City	23	8	8	7	32	35	32

LEADING GOALSCORERS

16 Carlos Ruiz (Los Angeles Galaxy)
15 Taylor Twellman (New England Revolution)
13 Jason Kreis (Dallas Burn)
12 Mamadou Diallo (MetroStars)
12 Ariel Graziani (San Jose Earthquakes)
12 Ante Razov (Chicago Fire)

AFRICA

CHAMPIONS LEAGUE

Group A

Aug 3

Al Ahly (Egy) 1 (Belal 60)
Jeanne d'Arc (Sen) 2 (Da Costa 40, Diaw 62)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Shelmani (Lby)

TP Mazembe (DRC) 2 (Nawej 7, Bafwafwa 66)
Raja Casablanca (Mor) 0
HT: 1-0. **Ref:** Tangawarima (Zim)

GROUP A

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
TP Mazembe	1	1	0	0	2	0	3
Jeanne d'Arc	1	1	0	0	2	1	3
Al Ahly	1	0	0	1	1	2	0
Raja Casablanca	1	0	0	1	0	2	0

Group B

Aug 2

Zamalek (Egy) 3 (Ali 20, 24, 89)
ASEC Abidjan (IvC) 1 (Madinho 62)
HT: 2-0. **Ref:** Lim (Mrs)

Aug 4

Costa do Sol (Moz) 0
Esperance (Tun) 1 (Jelassi 30)
HT: 0-1. **Ref:** Mathabela (SAf)

GROUP B

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Zamalek	1	1	0	0	3	1	3
Esperance	1	1	0	0	1	0	3
Costa do Sol	1	0	0	1	0	1	0
ASEC Abidjan	1	0	0	1	1	3	0

Top two in each group qualify for semi-finals, to be staged in November

ASIA

JAPAN

FIRST STAGE

July 20: Kashima Antlers 3 Kashiwa Reysol 2; Urawa Reds 2 Consadole Sapporo 1 (aet); JEF United Ichihara 0 Sanfrecce Hiroshima 1; FC Tokyo 0 Jubilo Iwata 2; Shimizu S-Pulse 1 Vegalta Sendai 0; Vissel Kobe 1 Kyoto Purple Sanga 2 (aet).
July 21: Yokohama F Marinos 2 Tokyo Verdy 1969 1; Gamba Osaka 3 Nagoya Grampus Eight 2 (aet).
July 24: Consadole Sapporo 2 Yokohama F Marinos 3 (aet); Vegalta Sendai 2 JEF United Ichihara 3 (aet); Kashiwa Reysol 1 Urawa Reds 2; Jubilo Iwata 3 Shimizu S-Pulse 1; Nagoya Grampus Eight 4 Vissel Kobe 1; Kyoto Purple Sanga 2 Kashima Antlers 1 (aet); Sanfrecce Hiroshima 1 Gamba Osaka 2; Tokyo Verdy 1969 2 FC Tokyo 1.
July 27: Urawa Reds 1 Kyoto Purple Sanga 2; JEF United Ichihara 2 Jubilo Iwata 2 (aet); Kashima Antlers 1 Vissel Kobe 0; Yokohama F Marinos 3 Kashiwa Reysol 2 (aet); Shimizu S-Pulse 1 Tokyo Verdy 1969 2; Sanfrecce Hiroshima 0 Nagoya Grampus Eight 1.
July 28: Gamba Osaka 3 Vegalta Sendai 0; FC Tokyo 3 Consadole Sapporo 1.
Aug 3: Consadole Sapporo 2 Kyoto Purple Sanga 3; Vegalta Sendai 4 Sanfrecce Hiroshima 2; Kashiwa Reysol 1 FC Tokyo 3; Jubilo Iwata 5 Gamba Osaka 4 (aet); Nagoya Grampus Eight 2 Kashima Antlers 1; Tokyo Verdy 1969 1 JEF United Ichihara 2.
Aug 4: Kyoto Purple Sanga 1 Yokohama F Marinos 1 (aet); Vissel Kobe 0 Urawa Reds 2.
Aug 7: Vegalta Sendai 1 Nagoya Grampus Eight 4; Urawa Reds 0 Kashima Antlers 2; FC Tokyo 1 Kyoto Purple Sanga 3; Yokohama F Marinos 3 Vissel Kobe 0; Shimizu S-Pulse 2 Kashiwa Reysol 1; Gamba Osaka 3 Tokyo Verdy 1969 0; Sanfrecce Hiroshima 0 Jubilo Iwata 1 (aet); JEF United Ichihara 2 Consadole Sapporo 0.
Aug 10: Consadole Sapporo 1 Gamba Osaka 0; Tokyo Verdy 1969 1 Sanfrecce Hiroshima 0 (aet); Jubilo Iwata 4 Vegalta Sendai 0; Nagoya Grampus Eight 2 Urawa Reds 1; Kyoto Purple Sanga 0 Shimizu S-Pulse 1; Vissel Kobe 2 FC Tokyo 1 (aet).
Aug 11: Kashima Antlers 2 Yokohama F Marinos 1; Kashiwa Reysol 1 JEF United Ichihara 3.

JAPAN – FIRST STAGE

	P	W1	W2	D	L	F	A	Pts
Jubilo Iwata	14	8	4	1	1	36	15	33
Yokohama FM	14	8	3	2	1	28	11	32
Gamba Osaka	14	8	1	1	4	34	17	27
Grampus Eight	14	8	1	0	5	26	17	26
Kashima Antlers	14	8	0	0	6	19	17	24
Shimizu S-Pulse	14	5	3	2	4	17	19	23
Kyoto PS	14	5	3	1	5	24	17	22
JEF United	14	5	1	3	5	20	22	20
Vegalta Sendai	14	6	1	0	7	22	25	20
FC Tokyo	14	5	0	2	7	22	25	17
Urawa Reds	14	3	2	1	8	20	22	14
Kashiwa Reysol	14	3	1	0	10	18	28	11
Tokyo Verdy	14	2	2	1	9	13	23	11
Sanfrecce H	14	3	0	1	10	13	24	10
Vissel Kobe	14	2	1	1	10	10	21	9
Consadole Sapp	14	2	0	0	12	14	33	6

W1 = win in 90mins – 3pts; W2 = win in extra time – 2pts; Draw = 1pt

Line call...Suarez of Dallas Burn gets in front of Chicago Fire's Beasley in MLS

AUSTRIA

Tue, July 9, 2002

Austria Wien v SV Ried

Wed, July 10

Bregenz v Grazer AK
Pasching v Karnten
Sturm Graz v Rapid Wien
Admira v Salzburg

Tue, July 16

Karnten v Austria Wien

Wed, July 17

Grazer AK v Pasching
Rapid Wien v Admira
SV Ried v Bregenz
Salzburg v Sturm Graz

Tue, July 23

Austria Wien v Grazer AK

Wed, July 24

Bregenz v Rapid Wien
Pasching v Salzburg
Sturm Graz v SV Ried
Admira v Karnten

Tue, July 30

Sturm Graz v Bregenz

Wed, July 31

Rapid Wien v Pasching
SV Ried v Admira
Salzburg v Austria Wien

Sun, August 4

Karnten v Grazer AK

Wed, August 7

Austria Wien v Rapid Wien
Karnten v SV Ried

Sat, August 10

Grazer AK v Salzburg
Pasching v Bregenz
Admira v Sturm Graz

Sat, August 17

Bregenz v Admira
Rapid Wien v Grazer AK
SV Ried v Pasching

Sun, August 18

Salzburg v Karnten
Sturm Graz v Austria Wien

Sat, August 24

Austria Wien v Bregenz
Karnten v Rapid Wien
Grazer AK v Sturm Graz
Pasching v Admira
Salzburg v SV Ried

Sat, August 31

Rapid Wien v Salzburg
SV Ried v Grazer AK
Sturm Graz v Pasching
Admira v Austria Wien

Sun, September 1

Bregenz v Karnten

Wed, September 11

Karnten v Sturm Graz
Grazer AK v Admira
Pasching v Austria Wien
Rapid Wien v SV Ried
Salzburg v Bregenz

Sat, September 14

Austria Wien v Pasching
Bregenz v Salzburg
SV Ried v Rapid Wien
Sturm Graz v Karnten
Admira v Grazer AK

Sat, September 21

Karnten v Pasching
Grazer AK v Bregenz
Rapid Wien v Sturm Graz
SV Ried v Austria Wien
Salzburg v Admira

Sat, September 28

Austria Wien v Karnten
Bregenz v SV Ried
Pasching v Grazer AK
Sturm Graz v Salzburg
Admira v Rapid Wien

Sat, October 5

Karnten v Admira
Grazer AK v Austria Wien
Rapid Wien v Bregenz
SV Ried v Sturm Graz
Salzburg v Pasching

Sat, October 19

Austria Wien v Salzburg
Bregenz v Sturm Graz
Grazer AK v Karnten
Pasching v Rapid Wien
Admira v SV Ried

Sat, October 26

Bregenz v Pasching
Rapid Wien v Austria Wien
SV Ried v Karnten
Salzburg v Grazer AK
Sturm Graz v Admira

Sat, November 2

Austria Wien v Sturm Graz
Karnten v Salzburg
Grazer AK v Rapid Wien
Pasching v SV Ried
Admira v Bregenz

Wed, November 6

Bregenz v Austria Wien
Rapid Wien v Karnten
SV Ried v Salzburg
Sturm Graz v Grazer AK
Admira v Pasching

Sat, November 9

Austria Wien v Admira
Karnten v Bregenz
Grazer AK v SV Ried
Pasching v Sturm Graz
Salzburg v Rapid Wien

Sat, November 16

Bregenz v Salzburg
Rapid Wien v Pasching
SV Ried v Austria Wien
Sturm Graz v Karnten
Admira v Grazer AK

Sat, November 23

Austria Wien v Sturm Graz
Karnten v Admira
Grazer AK v Rapid Wien
Pasching v Bregenz
Salzburg v SV Ried

Sat, November 30

Austria Wien v Grazer AK
Bregenz v Rapid Wien
SV Ried v Karnten
Sturm Graz v Pasching
Admira v Salzburg

Sat, February 22, 2003

Karnten v Austria Wien
Grazer AK v Bregenz
Pasching v SV Ried
Rapid Wien v Admira
Salzburg v Sturm Graz

Sat, March 1

Austria Wien v Salzburg
Karnten v Pasching
SV Ried v Rapid Wien
Sturm Graz v Grazer AK
Admira v Bregenz

Sat, March 8

Bregenz v Sturm Graz
Grazer AK v SV Ried
Pasching v Admira
Rapid Wien v Austria Wien
Salzburg v Karnten

Sat, March 15

Austria Wien v Pasching
Karnten v Rapid Wien
SV Ried v Bregenz
Salzburg v Grazer AK
Sturm Graz v Admira

Sat, March 22

Bregenz v Austria Wien
Grazer AK v Karnten
Pasching v Salzburg
Rapid Wien v Sturm Graz
Admira v SV Ried

Sat, April 5

Austria Wien v Admira
Karnten v Bregenz
Grazer AK v Pasching
SV Ried v Sturm Graz
Salzburg v Rapid Wien

Sat, April 12

Bregenz v Karnten
Pasching v Grazer AK
Rapid Wien v Salzburg
Sturm Graz v SV Ried
Admira v Austria Wien

Wed, April 16

Austria Wien v SV Ried
Karnten v Sturm Graz
Grazer AK v Admira
Pasching v Rapid Wien
Salzburg v Bregenz

Wed, April 23

Bregenz v Pasching
Rapid Wien v Grazer AK
SV Ried v Salzburg
Sturm Graz v Austria Wien
Admira v Karnten

Sat, April 26

Karnten v SV Ried
Grazer AK v Austria Wien
Pasching v Sturm Graz
Rapid Wien v Bregenz
Salzburg v Admira

Sat, May 3

Austria Wien v Karnten
Bregenz v Grazer AK
SV Ried v Pasching
Sturm Graz v Salzburg
Admira v Rapid Wien

Sat, May 10

Bregenz v Admira
Grazer AK v Sturm Graz
Pasching v Karnten
Rapid Wien v SV Ried
Salzburg v Austria Wien

Sat, May 17

Austria Wien v Rapid Wien
Karnten v Salzburg
SV Ried v Grazer AK
Sturm Graz v Bregenz
Admira v Pasching

Sat, May 24

Bregenz v SV Ried
Grazer AK v Salzburg
Pasching v Austria Wien
Rapid Wien v Karnten
Admira v Sturm Graz

Thu, May 29

Austria Wien v Bregenz
Karnten v Grazer AK
SV Ried v Admira
Salzburg v Pasching
Sturm Graz v Rapid Wien

BELGIUM

Fri, August 9, 2002

Standard Liege v Mouscron
Genk v Lokeren

Sat, August 10

Gent v Royal Antwerp
Germinal Beerschot v St Truiden
Lommel v Lierse
Westerlo v Anderlecht
Mechelen v Charleroi
Beveren v Mons

Sun, August 11

La Louviere v Club Brugge

Sat, August 17

Lokeren v Germinal Beerschot
Royal Antwerp v Genk
Anderlecht v Mechelen
Club Brugge v Beveren
Lierse v La Louviere
St Truiden v Lommel
Mons v Westerlo

Sun, August 18

Mouscron v Gent
Charleroi v Standard Liege

Sat, August 24

Gent v Charleroi
Royal Antwerp v Mouscron
Lommel v Lokeren
Westerlo v Club Brugge
Mechelen v Mons
Standard Liege v Anderlecht
Genk v Germinal Beerschot
Beveren v Lierse

Sun, August 25

La Louviere v St Truiden

Sat, August 31

Lokeren v La Louviere
Germinal Beerschot v Lommel
Charleroi v Royal Antwerp
Anderlecht v Gent
Club Brugge v Mechelen
Lierse v Westerlo
St Truiden v Beveren
Mons v Standard Liege

Sun, September 1

Mouscron v Genk

Fri, September 13

La Louviere v Germinal Beerschot
Standard Liege v Club Brugge

Sat, September 14

Gent v Mons
Mouscron v Charleroi
Westerlo v St Truiden
Mechelen v Lierse
Genk v Lommel
Beveren v Lokeren

Sun, September 15

Royal Antwerp v Anderlecht

Sat, September 21

Germinal Beerschot v Beveren
Lommel v La Louviere
Charleroi v Genk
Anderlecht v Mouscron
Club Brugge v Gent
Lierse v Standard Liege
St Truiden v Mechelen
Mons v Royal Antwerp

Sun, September 22

Lokeren v Westerlo

Sat, September 28

Gent v Lierse
Mouscron v Mons
Charleroi v Anderlecht
Westerlo v Germinal Beerschot
Standard Liege v St Truiden
Genk v La Louviere
Beveren v Lommel

Sun, September 29

Royal Antwerp v Club Brugge
Mechelen v Lokeren

Fri, October 4

La Louviere v Beveren

Sat, October 5

Lokeren v Standard Liege
Germinal Beerschot v Mechelen
Lommel v Westerlo
Anderlecht v Genk
Club Brugge v Mouscron
Lierse v Royal Antwerp
St Truiden v Gent
Mons v Charleroi

Sat, October 19

Gent v Lokeren
Royal Antwerp v St Truiden
Mouscron v Lierse
Charleroi v Club Brugge
Anderlecht v Mons
Mechelen v Lommel
Standard Liege v Germinal Beerschot
Genk v Beveren

Sun, October 20

Westerlo v La Louviere

Fri, October 25

La Louviere v Mechelen

Sat, October 26

Lokeren v Royal Antwerp
Germinal Beerschot v Gent
Lommel v Standard Liege
Lierse v Charleroi
Beveren v Westerlo
Mons v Genk

Sun, October 27

Club Brugge v Anderlecht
St Truiden v Mouscron

Sat, November 2

Gent v Lommel
Mouscron v Lokeren
Charleroi v St Truiden
Anderlecht v Lierse
Standard Liege v La Louviere
Mons v Club Brugge

Sun, November 3

Royal Antwerp v Germinal Beerschot
Mechelen v Beveren
Genk v Westerlo

Fri, November 8

La Louviere v Gent

Sat, November 9

Lokeren v Charleroi
Germinal Beerschot v Mouscron
Lommel v Royal Antwerp
Westerlo v Mechelen
Club Brugge v Genk
St Truiden v Anderlecht
Beveren v Standard Liege

Sun, November 10

Lierse v Mons

Sat, November 23

Gent v Beveren
Royal Antwerp v La Louviere
Charleroi v Germinal Beerschot
Anderlecht v Lokeren
Club Brugge v Lierse
Standard Liege v Westerlo
Genk v Mechelen
Mons v St Truiden

Sun, November 24

Mouscron v Lommel

Fri, November 29

La Louviere v Mouscron

Sat, November 30

Westerlo v Gent
Mechelen v Standard Liege
Lierse v Genk
St Truiden v Club Brugge
Beveren v Royal Antwerp

Sun, December 1

Germinal Beerschot v Anderlecht
Lokeren v Mons
Lommel v Charleroi

Sat, December 7

Royal Antwerp v Westerlo
Mouscron v Beveren
Charleroi v La Louviere
Anderlecht v Lommel
Club Brugge v Lokeren
Genk v Standard Liege

Sun, December 8

Gent v Mechelen
Lierse v St Truiden
Mons v Germinal Beerschot

Fri, December 13

La Louviere v Anderlecht

Sat, December 14

Lokeren v Lierse
Mechelen v Royal Antwerp
Genk v St Truiden

Sun, December 15

Beveren v Charleroi
Standard Liege v Gent
Germinal Beerschot v Club Brugge
Lommel v Mons
Westerlo v Mouscron

WORLDSERVICE

FIXTURES SEPTEMBER 2002

Sat, December 21

Gent v Genk
Mouscron v Mechelen
Charleroi v Westerlo
Club Brugge v Lommel
Lierse v Germinal Beerschot
St Truiden v Lokeren
Mons v La Louviere

Sun, December 22

Anderlecht v Beveren
Royal Antwerp v Standard Liege

Sat, January 18, 2003

Club Brugge v La Louviere
Royal Antwerp v Gent
St Truiden v Germinal Beerschot
Anderlecht v Westerlo
Mouscron v Standard Liege
Lokeren v Genk

Sun, January 19

Charleroi v Mechelen
Lierse v Lommel
Mons v Beveren

Fri, January 24

La Louviere v Lierse

Sat, January 25

Germinal Beerschot v Lokeren
Gent v Mouscron
Mechelen v Anderlecht
Beveren v Club Brugge
Lommel v St Truiden
Westerlo v Mons

Sun, January 26

Genk v Royal Antwerp
Standard Liege v Charleroi

Sat, February 1

Lokeren v Lommel
Club Brugge v Westerlo
Anderlecht v Standard Liege
Germinal Beerschot v Genk
Lierse v Beveren

Sun, February 2

Charleroi v Gent
Mons v Mechelen
Mouscron v Royal Antwerp
St Truiden v La Louviere

Fri, February 7

La Louviere v Lokeren

Sat, February 8

Genk v Mouscron
Royal Antwerp v Charleroi
Mechelen v Club Brugge
Westerlo v Lierse
Beveren v St Truiden

Sun, February 9

Gent v Anderlecht
Lommel v Germinal Beerschot
Standard Liege v Mons

Sat, February 15

Germinal Beerschot v La Louviere
Mons v Gent
Anderlecht v Royal Antwerp
Charleroi v Mouscron
St Truiden v Westerlo
Lierse v Mechelen
Club Brugge v Standard Liege
Lommel v Genk
Lokeren v Beveren

Sat, February 22

Royal Antwerp v Mons
Westerlo v Lokeren
Beveren v Germinal Beerschot
Genk v Charleroi
Mouscron v Anderlecht
Standard Liege v Lierse
Mechelen v St Truiden

Sun, February 23

Gent v Club Brugge
La Louviere v Lommel

Fri, February 28

La Louviere v Genk

Sat, March 1

Lierse v Gent
Mons v Mouscron
Anderlecht v Charleroi
Germinal Beerschot v Westerlo
St Truiden v Standard Liege
Lommel v Beveren

Sun, March 2

Club Brugge v Royal Antwerp
Lokeren v Mechelen

Sat, March 8

Standard Liege v Lokeren
Mechelen v Germinal Beerschot
Westerlo v Lommel
Genk v Anderlecht
Mouscron v Club Brugge
Royal Antwerp v Lierse
Gent v St Truiden
Charleroi v Mons

Sun, March 9

Beveren v La Louviere

Sat, March 15

Lokeren v Gent
St Truiden v Royal Antwerp
Lierse v Mouscron
Club Brugge v Charleroi
Mons v Anderlecht
Lommel v Mechelen
Germinal Beerschot v Standard Liege
Beveren v Genk

Sun, March 16

La Louviere v Westerlo

Sat, March 22

Royal Antwerp v Lokeren
Gent v Germinal Beerschot
Standard Liege v Lommel
Anderlecht v Club Brugge
Charleroi v Lierse
Mouscron v St Truiden
Genk v Mons

Sun, March 23

Mechelen v La Louviere
Westerlo v Beveren

Fri, April 4

La Louviere v Standard Liege

Sat, April 5

Lommel v Gent
Lokeren v Mouscron
St Truiden v Charleroi
Lierse v Anderlecht
Beveren v Mechelen
Westerlo v Genk
Club Brugge v Mons

Sun, April 6

Germinal Beerschot v Royal Antwerp

Sat, April 19

Gent v La Louviere
Charleroi v Lokeren
Mouscron v Germinal Beerschot
Royal Antwerp v Lommel
Mechelen v Westerlo
Genk v Club Brugge
Mons v Lierse
Anderlecht v St Truiden
Standard Liege v Beveren

Fri, April 25

La Louviere v Royal Antwerp

Sat, April 26

Beveren v Gent
Lommel v Mouscron
Germinal Beerschot v Charleroi
Lokeren v Anderlecht
Lierse v Club Brugge
Westerlo v Standard Liege
Mechelen v Genk

Sun, April 27

St Truiden v Mons

Sat, May 3

Mouscron v La Louviere
Mons v Lokeren
Charleroi v Lommel
Gent v Westerlo
Standard Liege v Mechelen
Genk v Lierse
Club Brugge v St Truiden
Royal Antwerp v Beveren

Sun, May 4

Anderlecht v Germinal Beerschot

Fri, May 9

La Louviere v Charleroi

Sat, May 10

Mechelen v Gent
Westerlo v Royal Antwerp
Beveren v Mouscron
Lommel v Anderlecht
Lokeren v Club Brugge
St Truiden v Lierse
Standard Liege v Genk

Sun, May 11

Germinal Beerschot v Mons

Sun, May 18

Anderlecht v La Louviere
Lierse v Lokeren
Club Brugge v Germinal Beerschot
Mons v Lommel
Mouscron v Westerlo
Royal Antwerp v Mechelen
Gent v Standard Liege
St Truiden v Genk
Charleroi v Beveren

Sun, May 25

Genk v Gent
Standard Liege v Royal Antwerp
Mechelen v Mouscron
Westerlo v Charleroi
Beveren v Anderlecht
Lommel v Club Brugge
Germinal Beerschot v Lierse
Lokeren v St Truiden
La Louviere v Mons

CZECH REPUBLIC

Wed, July 24, 2002

Sparta Prague v Teplice

Sat, July 27

Sigma Olomouc v Slovan Liberec

Sun, July 28

Chmel Blsany v Viktoria Zizkov
Zlin v Banik Ostrava
Marila Pribram v Brno
Bohemians v Ceske Budejovice

Mon, July 29

Hradec Kralove v Slavia Prague

Wed, July 31

Jablonec v Synot

Sat, August 3

Ceske Budejovice v Sparta Prague

Sun, August 4

Viktoria Zizkov v Zlin
Jablonec v Marila Pribram
Chmel Blsany v Hradec Kralove
Synot v Sigma Olomouc
Brno v Slovan Liberec
Banik Ostrava v Teplice

Mon, August 5

Slavia Prague v Bohemians

Sat, August 10

Sparta Prague v Banik Ostrava
Slovan Liberec v Synot

Sun, August 11

Hradec Kralove v Viktoria Zizkov
Zlin v Jablonec
Sigma Olomouc v Chmel Blsany
Bohemians v Brno
Teplice v Ceske Budejovice

Fri, August 23

Sparta Prague v Synot

Sat, August 24

Bohemians v Slovan Liberec
Teplice v Slavia Prague

Sun, August 25

Jablonec v Viktoria Zizkov
Zlin v Hradec Kralove
Marila Pribram v Chmel Blsany
Sigma Olomouc v Brno

Mon, August 26

Ceske Budejovice v Banik Ostrava

Wed, August 28

Marila Pribram v Slavia Prague

Sat, August 31

Brno v Sparta Prague

Sun, September 1

Chmel Blsany v Jablonec
Hradec Kralove v Bohemians
Synot v Ceske Budejovice
Banik Ostrava v Marila Pribram
Slavia Prague v Zlin
Viktoria Zizkov v Sigma Olomouc

Mon, September 2

Slovan Liberec v Teplice

Sun, September 15

Jablonec v Slovan Liberec
Marila Pribram v Zlin
Sigma Olomouc v Hradec Kralove
Bohemians v Banik Ostrava
Sparta Prague v Chmel Blsany
Teplice v Viktoria Zizkov
Ceske Budejovice v Slavia Prague
Synot v Brno

Sun, September 22

Chmel Blsany v Bohemians
Hradec Kralove v Jablonec
Zlin v Sigma Olomouc
Slovan Liberec v Ceske Budejovice
Brno v Teplice
Banik Ostrava v Synot
Slavia Prague v Sparta Prague
Viktoria Zizkov v Marila Pribram

Sun, September 29

Sigma Olomouc v Jablonec
Bohemians v Zlin
Sparta Prague v Marila Pribram
Slovan Liberec v Banik Ostrava
Teplice v Hradec Kralove
Ceske Budejovice v Viktoria Zizkov
Synot v Slavia Prague
Brno v Chmel Blsany

Sun, October 6

Jablonec v Bohemians
Chmel Blsany v Ceske Budejovice
Hradec Kralove v Sparta Prague
Zlin v Teplice
Marila Pribram v Sigma Olomouc
Banik Ostrava v Brno
Slavia Prague v Slovan Liberec
Viktoria Zizkov v Synot

Sun, October 20

Bohemians v Sigma Olomouc
Sparta Prague v Viktoria Zizkov
Slovan Liberec v Chmel Blsany
Teplice v Marila Pribram
Ceske Budejovice v Jablonec
Synot v Zlin
Brno v Hradec Kralove
Banik Ostrava v Slavia Prague

Sun, October 27

Jablonec v Sparta Prague
Chmel Blsany v Banik Ostrava
Hradec Kralove v Synot
Zlin v Ceske Budejovice
Marila Pribram v Bohemians
Sigma Olomouc v Teplice
Slavia Prague v Brno
Viktoria Zizkov v Slovan Liberec

Sun, November 3

Sparta Prague v Bohemians
Slovan Liberec v Zlin
Teplice v Jablonec
Ceske Budejovice v Sigma Olomouc
Synot v Marila Pribram
Brno v Viktoria Zizkov
Banik Ostrava v Hradec Kralove
Slavia Prague v Chmel Blsany

Sun, November 10

Jablonec v Banik Ostrava
Chmel Blsany v Synot
Hradec Kralove v Slovan Liberec
Zlin v Brno
Marila Pribram v Ceske Budejovice
Sigma Olomouc v Sparta Prague
Bohemians v Teplice
Viktoria Zizkov v Slavia Prague

Sun, November 17

Sparta Prague v Zlin
Slovan Liberec v Marila Pribram
Teplice v Chmel Blsany
Ceske Budejovice v Hradec Kralove
Synot v Bohemians
Brno v Jablonec
Banik Ostrava v Viktoria Zizkov
Slavia Prague v Sigma Olomouc

Sun, November 24

Chmel Blsany v Zlin
Hradec Kralove v Marila Pribram
Slovan Liberec v Sparta Prague
Synot v Teplice
Brno v Ceske Budejovice
Slavia Prague v Jablonec
Banik Ostrava v Sigma Olomouc
Viktoria Zizkov v Bohemians

Sun, February 16, 2003

Synot v Jablonec
Viktoria Zizkov v Chmel Blsany
Slavia Prague v Hradec Kralove
Banik Ostrava v Zlin
Brno v Marila Pribram
Slovan Liberec v Sigma Olomouc
Ceske Budejovice v Bohemians
Teplice v Sparta Prague

Sun, February 23

Marila Pribram v Jablonec
Hradec Kralove v Chmel Blsany
Sparta Prague v Ceske Budejovice
Sigma Olomouc v Synot
Slovan Liberec v Brno
Teplice v Banik Ostrava
Bohemians v Slavia Prague
Zlin v Viktoria Zizkov

Sun, March 2

Viktoria Zizkov v Hradec Kralove
Jablonec v Zlin
Slavia Prague v Marila Pribram
Chmel Blsany v Sigma Olomouc
Brno v Bohemians
Banik Ostrava v Sparta Prague
Synot v Slovan Liberec
Ceske Budejovice v Teplice

Sun, March 9

Zlin v Chmel Blsany
Marila Pribram v Hradec Kralove
Sparta Prague v Slovan Liberec
Teplice v Synot
Ceske Budejovice v Brno
Sigma Olomouc v Banik Ostrava
Jablonec v Slavia Prague
Bohemians v Viktoria Zizkov

Sun, March 16

Viktoria Zizkov v Jablonec
Hradec Kralove v Zlin
Chmel Blsany v Marila Pribram
Brno v Sigma Olomouc
Slovan Liberec v Bohemians
Synot v Sparta Prague
Slavia Prague v Teplice
Banik Ostrava v Ceske Budejovice

Sun, March 23

Jablonec v Chmel Blsany
Bohemians v Hradec Kralove
Teplice v Slovan Liberec
Ceske Budejovice v Synot
Sparta Prague v Brno
Marila Pribram v Banik Ostrava
Zlin v Slavia Prague
Sigma Olomouc v Viktoria Zizkov

Sun, April 6

Slovan Liberec v Jablonec
Zlin v Marila Pribram
Hradec Kralove v Sigma Olomouc
Banik Ostrava v Bohemians

Chmel Blsany v Sparta Prague
Viktoria Zizkov v Teplice
Slavia Prague v Ceske Budejovice
Brno v Synot

Sun, April 13

Bohemians v Chmel Blsany
Jablonec v Hradec Kralove
Sigma Olomouc v Zlin
Ceske Budejovice v Slovan Liberec
Teplice v Brno
Synot Banik v Ostrava
Sparta Prague v Slavia Prague
Marila Pribram v Viktoria Zizkov

Sun, April 20

Jablonec v Sigma Olomouc
Zlin v Bohemians
Marila Pribram v Sparta Prague
Banik Ostrava v Slovan Liberec
Hradec Kralove v Teplice
Viktoria Zizkov v Ceske Budejovice
Slavia Prague v Synot
Chmel Blsany v Brno

Sun, April 27

Bohemians v Jablonec
Ceske Budejovice v Chmel Blsany
Sparta Prague v Hradec Kralove
Teplice v Zlin
Sigma Olomouc v Marila Pribram
Brno v Banik Ostrava
Slovan Liberec v Slavia Prague
Synot v Viktoria Zizkov

Sun, May 4

Sigma Olomouc v Bohemians
Viktoria Zizkov v Sparta Prague
Chmel Blsany v Slovan Liberec
Marila Pribram v Teplice
Jablonec v Ceske Budejovice
Zlin v Synot
Hradec Kralove v Brno
Slavia Prague v Banik Ostrava

Sun, May 11

Sparta Prague v Jablonec
Banik Ostrava v Chmel Blsany
Synot v Hradec Kralove
Ceske Budejovice v Zlin
Bohemians v Marila Pribram
Teplice v Sigma Olomouc
Brno v Slavia Prague
Slovan Liberec v Viktoria Zizkov

Sun, May 18

Bohemians v Sparta Prague
Zlin v Slovan Liberec
Jablonec v Teplice
Sigma Olomouc v Ceske Budejovice
Marila Pribram v Synot
Viktoria Zizkov v Brno
Hradec Kralove v Banik Ostrava
Chmel Blsany v Slavia Prague

Sun, May 25

Banik Ostrava v Jablonec
Synot v Chmel Blsany
Slovan Liberec v Hradec Kralove
Brno v Zlin
Ceske Budejovice v Marila Pribram
Sparta Prague v Sigma Olomouc
Teplice v Bohemians
Slavia Prague v Viktoria Zizkov

Sun, June 1

Zlin v Sparta Prague
Marila Pribram v Slovan Liberec
Chmel Blsany v Teplice
Hradec Kralove v Ceske Budejovice
Bohemians v Synot
Jablonec v Brno
Viktoria Zizkov v Banik Ostrava
Sigma Olomouc v Slavia Prague

GREECE

Sun, August 25, 2002

Iraklis v OFI
Panahaiki v Aris
Olympiakos v Kallithea
Panionios v Ionikos
Akratitos v Xanthi
Aigaleo v AEK
PAOK v Panathinaikos
Proodeftiki v Giannina

Sun, September 1

Panahaiki v Iraklis
OFI v Olympiakos
Aris v Panionios
Kallithea v Akratitos
Ionikos v Aigaleo
Xanthi v PAOK
AEK v Giannina
Panathinaikos v Proodeftiki

Sun, September 15

AEK v Panathinaikos
Iraklis v Olympiakos
Panionios v Panahaiki
Akratitos v OFI
Aigaleo v Aris
PAOK v Kallithea
Giannina v Ionikos
Proodeftiki v Xanthi

Sun, September 22

Panionios v Iraklis
Olympiakos v Akratitos
Panahaiki v Aigaleo
OFI v PAOK
Aris v Giannina
Kallithea v Proodeftiki
Ionikos v Panathinaikos
Xanthi v AEK

Sun, September 29

PAOK v Olympiakos
Iraklis v Akratitos
Aigaleo v Panionios
Giannina v Panahaiki
Proodeftiki v OFI
Panathinaikos v Aris
AEK v Kallithea
Ionikos v Xanthi

Sun, October 6

Aigaleo v Iraklis
Akratitos v PAOK
Panionios v Giannina
Olympiakos v Proodeftiki
Panahaiki v Panathinaikos
OFI v AEK
Aris v Xanthi
Kallithea v Ionikos

Sun, October 27

AEK v Olympiakos
Iraklis v PAOK
Giannina v Aigaleo
Proodeftiki v Akratitos
Panathinaikos v Panionios
Xanthi v Panahaiki
Ionikos v OFI
Aris v Kallithea

Sun, November 3

Giannina v Iraklis
PAOK v Proodeftiki
Aigaleo v Panathinaikos
Akratitos v AEK
Panionios v Xanthi
Olympiakos v Ionikos
Panahaiki v Kallithea
OFI v Aris

Sun, November 10

AEK v PAOK
Iraklis v Proodeftiki
Panathinaikos v Giannina
Xanthi v Aigaleo
Ionikos v Akratitos
Kallithea v Panionios
Aris v Olympiakos
OFI v Panahaiki

Sun, November 24

Panathinaikos v Iraklis
Proodeftiki v AEK
Giannina v Xanthi
PAOK v Ionikos
Aigaleo v Kallithea
Akratitos v Aris
Panionios v OFI
Olympiakos v Panahaiki

Sun, December 1

Aris v PAOK
Iraklis v AEK
Xanthi v Panathinaikos
Ionikos v Proodeftiki
Kallithea v Giannina
OFI v Aigaleo
Panahaiki v Akratitos
Olympiakos v Panionios

Sun, December 8

Xanthi v Iraklis
AEK v Ionikos
Panathinaikos v Kallithea
Proodeftiki v Aris
Giannina v OFI
PAOK v Panahaiki
Aigaleo v Olympiakos
Akratitos v Panionios

Sun, December 15

Iraklis v Ionikos
Kallithea v Xanthi
Aris v AEK
OFI v Panathinaikos
Panahaiki v Proodeftiki
Olympiakos v Giannina
Panionios v PAOK
Akratitos v Aigaleo

Sun, December 22

Panathinaikos v Olympiakos
Kallithea v Iraklis
Ionikos v Aris
Xanthi v OFI
AEK v Panahaiki
Proodeftiki v Panionios
Giannina v Akratitos
PAOK v Aigaleo

Sun, January 5, 2003

Iraklis v Aris
OFI v Kallithea
Panahaiki v Ionikos
Olympiakos v Xanthi
Panionios v AEK
Akratitos v Panathinaikos
Aigaleo v Proodeftiki
PAOK v Giannina

Sun, January 12

OFI v Iraklis
Aris v Panahaiki
Kallithea v Olympiakos
Ionikos v Panionios
Xanthi v Akratitos
AEK v Aigaleo
Panathinaikos v PAOK
Giannina v Proodeftiki

Sun, January 19

Iraklis v Panahaiki
Olympiakos v OFI
Panionios v Aris
Akratitos v Kallithea
Aigaleo v Ionikos
PAOK v Xanthi
Giannina v AEK
Proodeftiki v Panathinaikos

Sun, January 26

Panathinaikos v AEK
Olympiakos v Iraklis
Panahaiki v Panionios
OFI v Akratitos
Aris v Aigaleo
Kallithea v PAOK
Ionikos v Giannina
Xanthi v Proodeftiki

Sun, February 2

Iraklis v Panionios
Akratitos v Olympiakos
Aigaleo v Panahaiki
PAOK v OFI
Giannina v Aris
Proodeftiki v Kallithea
Panathinaikos v Ionikos
AEK v Xanthi

Sun, February 16

Olympiakos v PAOK
Akratitos v Iraklis
Panionios v Aigaleo
Panahaiki v Giannina
OFI v Proodeftiki
Aris v Panathinaikos
Kallithea v AEK
Xanthi v Ionikos

Sun, February 23

Iraklis v Aigaleo
PAOK v Akratitos
Giannina v Panionios
Proodeftiki v Olympiakos
Panathinaikos v Panahaiki
AEK v OFI
Xanthi v Aris
Ionikos v Kallithea

Sun, March 2

Olympiakos v AEK
PAOK v Iraklis
Aigaleo v Giannina
Akratitos v Proodeftiki
Panionios v Panathinaikos
Panahaiki v Xanthi
OFI v Ionikos
Kallithea v Aris

Sun, March 9

Iraklis v Giannina
Proodeftiki v PAOK
Panathinaikos v Aigaleo
AEK v Akratitos
Xanthi v Panionios
Ionikos v Olympiakos
Kallithea v Panahaiki
Aris v OFI

Sun, March 16

PAOK v AEK
Proodeftiki v Iraklis
Giannina v Panathinaikos
Aigaleo v Xanthi
Akratitos v Ionikos
Panionios v Kallithea
Olympiakos v Aris
Panahaiki v OFI

Sun, March 23

Iraklis v Panathinaikos
AEK v Proodeftiki
Xanthi v Giannina
Ionikos v PAOK
Kallithea v Aigaleo
Aris v Akratitos
OFI v Panionios
Panahaiki v Olympiakos

Sun, April 6

PAOK v Aris
AEK v Iraklis
Panathinaikos v Xanthi
Proodeftiki v Ionikos
Giannina v Kallithea
Aigaleo v OFI
Akratitos v Panahaiki
Panionios v Olympiakos

Sun, April 13

Iraklis v Xanthi
Ionikos v AEK
Kallithea v Panathinaikos
Aris v Proodeftiki
OFI v Giannina
Panahaiki v PAOK
Olympiakos v Aigaleo
Panionios v Akratitos

Sun, April 20

Ionikos v Iraklis
Xanthi v Kallithea
AEK v Aris
Panathinaikos v OFI
Proodeftiki v Panahaiki
Giannina v Olympiakos
PAOK v Panionios
Aigaleo v Akratitos

Sun, May 4

Olympiakos v Panathinaikos
Iraklis v Kallithea
Aris v Ionikos
OFI v Xanthi
Panahaiki v AEK
Panionios v Proodeftiki
Akratitos v Giannina
Aigaleo v PAOK

Sun, May 18

Aris v Iraklis
Kallithea v OFI
Ionikos v Panahaiki
Xanthi v Olympiakos
AEK v Panionios
Panathinaikos v Akratitos
Proodeftiki v Aigaleo
Giannina v PAOK

HOLLAND

Fri, August 16, 2002

RBC v Zwolle

Sat, August 17

Excelsior v PSV
NAC v Roda JC
AZ v Heerenveen
Twente v Willem II

Sun, August 18

RKC v De Graafschap
Groningen v Vitesse
Ajax v Utrecht
Feyenoord v NEC

Fri, August 23

NEC v AZ

Sat, August 24

Roda JC v Feyenoord
De Graafschap v RBC
Heerenveen v RKC
Zwolle v Excelsior
PSV v Groningen

Sun, August 25

Vitesse v Ajax
Twente v Utrecht
Willem II v NAC

Fri, August 30

RKC v Twente

Sat, August 31

Zwolle v Vitesse
NAC v NEC
Roda JC v Willem II

Sun, September 1

Groningen v Ajax
RBC v Heerenveen

Tue, September 10

AZ v PSV
Feyenoord v Excelsior
Utrecht v De Graafschap

Fri, September 13

Vitesse v RBC

Sat, September 14

Excelsior v Groningen
Willem II v Utrecht
Heerenveen v NAC
PSV v RKC
Twente v Feyenoord

Sun, September 15

NEC v Roda JC
De Graafschap v AZ
Ajax v Zwolle

Fri, September 20

Excelsior v AZ

Sat, September 21

RBC v Ajax
NAC v Twente
Zwolle v PSV
Willem II v NEC

Sun, September 22

Groningen v Utrecht
Roda JC v Heerenveen
Vitesse v RKC
Feyenoord v De Graafschap

Fri, September 27

AZ v Groningen

Sat, September 28

PSV v De Graafschap
RBC v Feyenoord
Willem II v Zwolle
Twente v Roda JC

Sun, September 29

RKC v Excelsior
Utrecht v Vitesse
Ajax v NAC
NEC v Heerenveen

Wed, October 2

NEC v Groningen

Fri, October 4

RKC v Zwolle

Sat, October 5

De Graafschap v Twente
Roda JC v Excelsior
NAC v PSV

Sun, October 6

AZ v Vitesse
Feyenoord v Ajax
Utrecht v RBC
Heerenveen v Willem II

Fri, October 18

De Graafschap v NEC

Sat, October 19

PSV v Roda JC
Willem II v RBC
Ajax v AZ
Twente v Heerenveen
Vitesse v Feyenoord

Sun, October 20

Zwolle v NAC

WORLDSERVICE

Excelsior v Utrecht
Groningen v RKC

Tue, October 22

Vitesse v Roda JC

Fri, October 25

NAC v Vitesse

Sat, October 26

Roda JC v De Graafschap
Heerenveen v Excelsior
RKC v Ajax
AZ v Twente
NEC v PSV

Sun, October 27

RBC v Groningen
Utrecht v Zwolle
Feyenoord v Willem II

Fri, November 1

Zwolle v AZ

Sat, November 2

RBC v RKC
Excelsior v NEC
Twente v PSV

Sun, November 3

Ajax v Willem II
Groningen v Feyenoord
Heerenveen v De Graafschap
Utrecht v NAC

Fri, November 8

Roda JC v Ajax

Sat, November 9

NAC v Groningen
De Graafschap v Excelsior
Willem II v Vitesse
PSV v Heerenveen
AZ v RBC

Sun, November 10

NEC v Twente
Feyenoord v Zwolle
RKC v Utrecht

Fri, November 15

Willem II v RKC

Sat, November 16

Groningen v De Graafschap
RBC v Roda JC
Vitesse v Heerenveen

Sun, November 17

Utrecht v AZ
Ajax v NEC
PSV v Feyenoord
Zwolle v Twente
Excelsior v NAC

Fri, November 22

Excelsior v Willem II

Sat, November 23

Roda JC v AZ
RBC v PSV
De Graafschap v NAC
Heerenveen v Ajax
Twente v Vitesse

Sun, November 24

Zwolle v Groningen
RKC v Feyenoord
Utrecht v NEC

Fri, November 29

Roda JC v Zwolle

Sat, November 30

NAC v RBC
PSV v Willem II
AZ v RKC
Vitesse v Excelsior

Sun, December 1

Groningen v Heerenveen
Ajax v Twente
Feyenoord v Utrecht

Fri, December 6

RBC v Excelsior

Sat, December 7

Willem II v AZ
Heerenveen v Feyenoord
De Graafschap v Ajax

Sun, December 8

Twente v Groningen
NEC v Vitesse
RKC v Roda JC

Fri, December 13

Groningen v Roda JC

Sat, December 14

Zwolle v NEC
De Graafschap v Willem II
Excelsior v Twente
NAC v RKC

Sun, December 15

Feyenoord v AZ
Heerenveen v Utrecht
Ajax v PSV

Tue, December 17

NEC v RBC

Wed, December 18

AZ v NAC
Heerenveen v Zwolle
Utrecht v PSV
Vitesse v De Graafschap

Fri, December 20

Twente v RBC

Sat, December 21

Willem II v Groningen
PSV v Vitesse
De Graafschap v Zwolle
NEC v RKC

Sun, December 22

Excelsior v Ajax
NAC v Feyenoord
Roda JC v Utrecht

Fri, January 31, 2003

PSV v RBC

Sat, February 1

NAC v Heerenveen
Excelsior v Roda JC
AZ v NEC
Vitesse v Zwolle

Sun, February 2

De Graafschap v Utrecht
RKC v Groningen
Willem II v Ajax
Feyenoord v Twente

Fri, February 7

Roda JC v Vitesse

Sat, February 8

Heerenveen v AZ
RBC v De Graafschap
Zwolle v Willem II
RKC v PSV

Sun, February 9

Utrecht v Excelsior
NEC v NAC
Ajax v Feyenoord
Groningen v Twente

Fri, February 14

RBC v Utrecht

Sat, February 15

Willem II v Roda JC
NAC v Excelsior
De Graafschap v Heerenveen
PSV v Zwolle
AZ v Feyenoord

Sun, February 16

Ajax v Groningen
Twente v NEC
RKC v Vitesse

Fri, February 21

NEC v De Graafschap

Sat, February 22

Excelsior v RBC
PSV v NAC
Roda JC v Twente
Vitesse v AZ

Sun, February 23

Utrecht v Ajax
Zwolle v RKC
Feyenoord v Groningen

Tue, February 25

NEC v Willem II

Wed, February 26

Utrecht v Heerenveen

Fri, February 28

RBC v Willem II

Sat, March 1

De Graafschap v Roda JC
Heerenveen v PSV
Excelsior v RKC
Twente v AZ

Sun, March 2

Feyenoord v NAC
Ajax v Vitesse
Groningen v Zwolle

Fri, March 7

AZ v Roda JC

Sat, March 8

Willem II v Twente
PSV v NEC
NAC v De Graafschap
Excelsior v Feyenoord

Sun, March 9

Groningen v RBC
Vitesse v Utrecht
RKC v Heerenveen
Zwolle v Ajax

Fri, March 14

De Graafschap v RKC

Sat, March 15

Heerenveen v Twente
Roda JC v NAC
Zwolle v RBC
Vitesse v PSV

Sun, March 16

AZ v Utrecht
NEC v Feyenoord
Ajax v Excelsior
Groningen v Willem II

Fri, March 21

Excelsior v Zwolle

Sat, March 22

Roda JC v NEC
RBC v Vitesse
Twente v RKC
AZ v De Graafschap
Feyenoord v Heerenveen

Sun, March 23

NAC v Willem II
Utrecht v Groningen
PSV v Ajax

Fri, April 4

NEC v Excelsior

Sat, April 5

De Graafschap v Feyenoord
Heerenveen v Roda JC
Twente v NAC
Vitesse v Groningen

Sun, April 6

Zwolle v Utrecht
Willem II v PSV
RKC v AZ
Ajax v RBC

Fri, April 11

Roda JC v PSV

Sat, April 12

Heerenveen v NEC
AZ v Zwolle
Twente v De Graafschap
Feyenoord v Vitesse

Sun, April 13

Groningen v Excelsior
Utrecht v Willem II
RKC v RBC
NAC v Ajax

Fri, April 18

Utrecht v RKC

Sat, April 19

PSV v Twente
Willem II v De Graafschap
RBC v AZ
Excelsior v Heerenveen
Ajax v Roda JC

Sun, April 20

Zwolle v Feyenoord
Vitesse v NEC
Groningen v NAC

Fri, April 25

RKC v Willem II

Sat, April 26

Roda JC v Groningen
De Graafschap v PSV
Heerenveen v Vitesse
NAC v Zwolle
Twente v Excelsior

Sun, April 27

Feyenoord v RBC
NEC v Utrecht
AZ v Ajax

Fri, May 2

Excelsior v De Graafschap

Sat, May 3

PSV v AZ
Willem II v Heerenveen
Zwolle v Roda JC
Ajax v RKC
Vitesse v NAC

Sun, May 4

RBC v Twente
Utrecht v Feyenoord
Groningen v NEC

Fri, May 9

Heerenveen v Groningen

Sat, May 10

PSV v Excelsior
NAC v Utrecht
Roda JC v RBC
Twente v Zwolle

Sun, May 11

AZ v Willem II
NEC v Ajax
Feyenoord v RKC
De Graafschap v Vitesse

Fri, May 16

Utrecht v Roda JC

Sat, May 17

Zwolle v Heerenveen
Willem II v Excelsior
RBC v NEC
Vitesse v Twente

Sun, May 18

Ajax v De Graafschap
RKC v NAC
Groningen v AZ
Feyenoord v PSV

Sun, May 25

Heerenveen v RBC
Excelsior v Vitesse
Twente v Ajax
NAC v AZ
Roda JC v RKC
PSV v Utrecht
NEC v Zwolle
Willem II v Feyenoord
De Graafschap v Groningen

Thu, May 29

Ajax v Heerenveen
Groningen v PSV
Utrecht v Twente
Zwolle v De Graafschap
RBC v NAC
Vitesse v Willem II
Feyenoord v Roda JC
AZ v Excelsior
RKC v NEC

PORTUGAL

Thu, August 22, 2002

Setubal v Boavista

Fri, August 23

Academica v Sporting Lisbon

Sat, August 24

Uniao Leiria v Guimaraes
Benfica v Maritimo
Santa Clara v Sporting Braga

Sun, August 25

Pacos Ferreira v Varzim
FC Porto v Belenenses
Nacional v Gil Vicente
Moreirense v Beira Mar

Sun, September 1

Varzim v Moreirense
Sporting Braga v Pacos Ferreira
Sporting Lisbon v Santa Clara
Belenenses v Academica
Boavista v FC Porto
Gil Vicente v Setubal
Guimaraes v Nacional
Maritimo v Uniao Leiria
Beira Mar v Benfica

Sun, September 15

Varzim v Sporting Braga
Pacos Ferreira v Sporting Lisbon
Santa Clara v Belenenses
FC Porto v Gil Vicente
Academica v Boavista
Setubal v Guimaraes
Nacional v Maritimo
Uniao Leiria v Beira Mar
Moreirense v Benfica

Sun, September 22

Sporting Braga v Moreirense
Sporting Lisbon v Varzim
Belenenses v Pacos Ferreira
Boavista v Santa Clara
Gil Vicente v Academica
Guimaraes v FC Porto
Maritimo v Setubal
Beira Mar v Nacional
Benfica v Uniao Leiria

Sun, September 29

Sporting Braga v Sporting Lisbon
Varzim v Belenenses
Pacos Ferreira v Boavista
Santa Clara v Gil Vicente
Academica v Guimaraes
FC Porto v Maritimo
Setubal v Beira Mar
Nacional v Benfica
Moreirense v Uniao Leiria

Sun, October 6

Sporting Lisbon v Moreirense
Belenenses v Sporting Braga
Boavista v Varzim
Gil Vicente v Pacos Ferreira
Guimaraes v Santa Clara
Maritimo v Academica
Beira Mar v FC Porto
Benfica v Setubal
Uniao Leiria v Nacional

Sun, October 20

Sporting Lisbon v Belenenses
Sporting Braga v Boavista
Varzim v Gil Vicente
Pacos Ferreira v Guimaraes
Santa Clara v Maritimo
Academica v Beira Mar
FC Porto v Benfica
Setubal v Uniao Leiria
Moreirense v Nacional

FIXTURES SEPTEMBER 2002

Sun, October 27

Belenenses v Moreirense
Boavista v Sporting Lisbon
Gil Vicente v Sporting Braga
Guimaraes v Varzim
Maritimo v Pacos Ferreira
Beira Mar v Santa Clara
Benfica v Academica
Uniao Leiria v FC Porto
Nacional v Setubal

Sun, November 3

Belenenses v Boavista
Sporting Lisbon v Gil Vicente
Sporting Braga v Guimaraes
Varzim v Maritimo
Pacos Ferreira v Beira Mar
Santa Clara v Benfica
Academica v Uniao Leiria
FC Porto v Nacional
Moreirense v Setubal

Sun, November 10

Boavista v Moreirense
Gil Vicente v Belenenses
Guimaraes v Sporting Lisbon
Maritimo v Sporting Braga
Beira Mar v Varzim
Benfica v Pacos Ferreira
Uniao Leiria v Santa Clara
Nacional v Academica
Setubal v FC Porto

Sun, November 17

Boavista v Gil Vicente
Belenenses v Guimaraes
Sporting Lisbon v Maritimo
Sporting Braga v Beira Mar
Varzim v Benfica
Pacos Ferreira v Uniao Leiria
Santa Clara v Nacional
Academica v Setubal
Moreirense v FC Porto

Sun, December 1

Gil Vicente v Moreirense
Guimaraes v Boavista
Maritimo v Belenenses
Beira Mar v Sporting Lisbon
Benfica v Sporting Braga
Uniao Leiria v Varzim
Nacional v Pacos Ferreira
Setubal v Santa Clara
FC Porto v Academica

Sun, December 8

Gil Vicente v Guimaraes
Boavista v Maritimo
Belenenses v Beira Mar
Sporting Lisbon v Benfica
Sporting Braga v Uniao Leiria
Varzim v Nacional
Pacos Ferreira v Setubal
Santa Clara v FC Porto
Moreirense v Academica

Sun, December 15

Guimaraes v Moreirense
Maritimo v Gil Vicente
Beira Mar v Boavista
Benfica v Belenenses
Uniao Leiria v Sporting Lisbon
Nacional v Sporting Braga
Setubal v Varzim
FC Porto v Pacos Ferreira
Academica v Santa Clara

Sun, December 22

Guimaraes v Maritimo
Gil Vicente v Beira Mar
Boavista v Benfica
Belenenses v Uniao Leiria
Sporting Lisbon v Nacional
Sporting Braga v Setubal
Varzim v FC Porto
Pacos Ferreira v Academica
Moreirense v Santa Clara

Sun, December 29

Beira Mar v Guimaraes
Benfica v Gil Vicente
Uniao Leiria v Boavista
Nacional v Belenenses
Setubal v Sporting Lisbon
FC Porto v Sporting Braga
Academica v Varzim
Santa Clara v Pacos Ferreira
Moreirense v Maritimo

Sun, January 5, 2003

Maritimo v Beira Mar
Guimaraes v Benfica
Gil Vicente v Uniao Leiria
Boavista v Nacional
Belenenses v Setubal
Sporting Lisbon v FC Porto
Sporting Braga v Academica
Varzim v Santa Clara
Pacos Ferreira v Moreirense

Sun, January 12

Varzim v Pacos Ferreira
Sporting Braga v Santa Clara
Sporting Lisbon v Academica
Belenenses v FC Porto
Boavista v Setubal
Gil Vicente v Nacional
Guimaraes v Uniao Leiria
Maritimo v Benfica
Beira Mar v Moreirense

Sun, January 19

Moreirense v Varzim
Pacos Ferreira v Sporting Braga
Santa Clara v Sporting Lisbon
Academica v Belenenses
FC Porto v Boavista
Setubal v Gil Vicente
Nacional v Guimaraes
Uniao Leiria v Maritimo
Benfica v Beira Mar

Sun, February 2

Sporting Braga v Varzim
Sporting Lisbon v Pacos Ferreira
Belenenses v Santa Clara
Gil Vicente v FC Porto
Boavista v Academica
Guimaraes v Setubal
Maritimo v Nacional
Beira Mar v Uniao Leiria
Benfica v Moreirense

Sun, February 9

Moreirense v Sporting Braga
Varzim v Sporting Lisbon
Pacos Ferreira v Belenenses
Santa Clara v Boavista
Academica v Gil Vicente
FC Porto v Guimaraes
Setubal v Maritimo
Nacional v Beira Mar
Uniao Leiria v Benfica

Sun, February 16

Sporting Lisbon v Sporting Braga
Belenenses v Varzim
Boavista v Pacos Ferreira
Gil Vicente v Santa Clara
Guimaraes v Academica
Maritimo v FC Porto
Beira Mar v Setubal
Benfica v Nacional
Uniao Leiria v Moreirense

Sun, February 23

Moreirense v Sporting Lisbon
Sporting Braga v Belenenses
Varzim v Boavista
Pacos Ferreira v Gil Vicente
Santa Clara v Guimaraes
Academica v Maritimo
FC Porto v Beira Mar
Setubal v Benfica
Nacional v Uniao Leiria

Sun, March 2

Belenenses v Sporting Lisbon
Boavista v Sporting Braga
Gil Vicente v Varzim
Guimaraes v Pacos Ferreira
Maritimo v Santa Clara
Beira Mar v Academica
Benfica v FC Porto
Uniao Leiria v Setubal
Nacional v Moreirense

Sun, March 16

Moreirense v Belenenses
Sporting Lisbon v Boavista
Sporting Braga v Gil Vicente
Varzim v Guimaraes
Pacos Ferreira v Maritimo
Santa Clara v Beira Mar
Academica v Benfica
FC Porto v Uniao Leiria
Setubal v Nacional

Sun, March 23

Boavista v Belenenses
Gil Vicente v Sporting Lisbon
Guimaraes v Sporting Braga
Maritimo v Varzim
Beira Mar v Pacos Ferreira
Benfica v Santa Clara
Uniao Leiria v Academica
Nacional v FC Porto
Setubal v Moreirense

Sun, April 6

Moreirense v Boavista
Belenenses v Gil Vicente
Sporting Lisbon v Guimaraes
Sporting Braga v Maritimo
Varzim v Beira Mar
Pacos Ferreira v Benfica
Santa Clara v Uniao Leiria
Academica v Nacional
FC Porto v Setubal

Sat, April 19

Gil Vicente v Boavista
Guimaraes v Belenenses
Maritimo v Sporting Lisbon
Beira Mar v Sporting Braga
Benfica v Varzim
Uniao Leiria v Pacos Ferreira
Nacional v Santa Clara
Setubal v Academica
FC Porto v Moreirense

Sun, April 27

Moreirense v Gil Vicente
Boavista v Guimaraes
Belenenses v Maritimo
Sporting Lisbon v Beira Mar
Sporting Braga v Benfica
Varzim v Uniao Leiria
Pacos Ferreira v Nacional
Santa Clara v Setubal
Academica v FC Porto

Sun, May 4

Guimaraes v Gil Vicente
Maritimo v Boavista
Beira Mar v Belenenses
Benfica v Sporting Lisbon
Uniao Leiria v Sporting Braga
Nacional v Varzim
Setubal v Pacos Ferreira
FC Porto v Santa Clara
Academica v Moreirense

Sun, May 11

Moreirense v Guimaraes
Gil Vicente v Maritimo
Boavista v Beira Mar
Belenenses v Benfica
Sporting Lisbon v Uniao Leiria
Sporting Braga v Nacional
Varzim v Setubal
Pacos Ferreira v FC Porto
Santa Clara v Academica

Sun, May 18

Maritimo v Guimaraes
Beira Mar v Gil Vicente
Benfica v Boavista
Uniao Leiria v Belenenses
Nacional v Sporting Lisbon
Setubal v Sporting Braga
FC Porto v Varzim
Academica v Pacos Ferreira
Santa Clara v Moreirense

Sun, May 25

Maritimo v Moreirense
Guimaraes v Beira Mar
Gil Vicente v Benfica
Boavista v Uniao Leiria
Belenenses v Nacional
Sporting Lisbon v Setubal
Sporting Braga v FC Porto
Varzim v Academica
Pacos Ferreira v Santa Clara

Sun, June 1

Beira Mar v Maritimo
Benfica v Guimaraes
Uniao Leiria v Gil Vicente
Nacional v Boavista
Setubal v Belenenses
FC Porto v Sporting Lisbon
Academica v Sporting Braga
Santa Clara v Varzim
Moreirense v Pacos Ferreira

TURKEY

Fri, August 9, 2002

Trabzonspor v Fenerbahce

Sat, August 10

Ankaragucu v Malatyaspor
Diyarbakirspor v Altay
Istanbulspor v Adanaspor
Bursaspor v Besiktas

Sun, August 11

Galatasaray v Samsunspor
Gaziantepspor v Denizlispor
Goztepe v Elazigspor
Kocaelispor v Genclerbirligi

Fri, August 16

Denizlispor v Galatasaray

Sat, August 17

Besiktas v Kocaelispor
Genclerbirligi v Istanbulspor
Elazigspor v Trabzonspor
Malatyaspor v Gaziantepspor
Samsunspor v Bursaspor

Sun, August 18

Adanaspor v Diyarbakirspor
Altay v Goztepe
Fenerbahce v Ankaragucu

Fri, August 23

Gaziantepspor v Fenerbahce

Sat, August 24

Trabzonspor v Altay
Goztepe v Adanaspor
Kocaelispor v Samsunspor
Istanbulspor v Besiktas

Sun, August 25

Ankaragucu v Elazigspor
Denizlispor v Malatyaspor
Diyarbakirspor v Genclerbirligi
Galatasaray v Bursaspor

Fri, August 30

Besiktas v Diyarbakirspor

Sat, August 31

Adanaspor v Trabzonspor
Bursaspor v Kocaelispor
Altay v Ankaragucu
Malatyaspor v Galatasaray

Sun, September 1

Elazigspor v Gaziantepspor
Fenerbahce v Denizlispor
Genclerbirligi v Goztepe
Samsunspor v Istanbulspor

September 13-15

Gaziantepspor v Altay
Malatyaspor v Fenerbahce
Denizlispor v Elazigspor
Galatasaray v Kocaelispor
Ankaragucu v Adanaspor
Trabzonspor v Genclerbirligi
Goztepe v Besiktas
Diyarbakirspor v Samsunspor
Istanbulspor v Bursaspor

September 20-22

Elazigspor v Malatyaspor
Fenerbahce v Galatasaray
Samsunspor v Goztepe
Genclerbirligi v Ankaragucu
Adanaspor v Gaziantepspor
Altay v Denizlispor
Kocaelispor v Istanbulspor
Bursaspor v Diyarbakirspor
Besiktas v Trabzonspor

September 27-29

Gaziantepspor v Genclerbirligi
Goztepe v Bursaspor
Fenerbahce v Elazigspor
Ankaragucu v Besiktas
Trabzonspor v Samsunspor
Diyarbakirspor v Kocaelispor
Malatyaspor v Altay
Denizlispor v Adanaspor
Galatasaray v Istanbulspor

October 4-6

Samsunspor v Ankaragucu
Adanaspor v Malatyaspor
Bursaspor v Trabzonspor
Genclerbirligi v Denizlispor
Altay v Fenerbahce
Elazigspor v Galatasaray
Istanbulspor v Diyarbakirspor
Kocaelispor v Goztepe
Besiktas v Gaziantepspor

October 18-20

Trabzonspor v Kocaelispor
Elazigspor v Altay
Denizlispor v Besiktas
Gaziantepspor v Samsunspor
Ankaragucu v Bursaspor
Goztepe v Istanbulspor
Fenerbahce v Adanaspor
Malatyaspor v Genclerbirligi
Galatasaray v Diyarbakirspor

October 25-27

Kocaelispor v Ankaragucu
Besiktas v Malatyaspor
Samsunspor v Denizlispor
Genclerbirligi v Fenerbahce
Adanaspor v Elazigspor
Altay v Galatasaray
Diyarbakirspor v Goztepe
Istanbulspor v Trabzonspor
Bursaspor v Gaziantepspor

November 1-3

Elazigspor v Genclerbirligi
Fenerbahce v Besiktas
Galatasaray v Goztepe
Gaziantepspor v Kocaelispor
Ankaragucu v Istanbulspor
Trabzonspor v Diyarbakirspor
Altay v Adanaspor
Malatyaspor v Samsunspor
Denizlispor v Bursaspor

November 8-10

Diyarbakirspor v Ankaragucu
Kocaelispor v Denizlispor
Besiktas v Elazigspor
Samsunspor v Fenerbahce
Genclerbirligi v Altay
Adanaspor v Galatasaray
Goztepe v Trabzonspor
Istanbulspor v Gaziantepspor
Bursaspor v Malatyaspor

November 15-17

Gaziantepspor v Diyarbakirspor
Fenerbahce v Bursaspor
Malatyaspor v Kocaelispor
Ankaragucu v Goztepe
Adanaspor v Genclerbirligi
Altay v Besiktas
Elazigspor v Samsunspor
Denizlispor v Istanbulspor
Galatasaray v Trabzonspor

November 22-24

Trabzonspor v Ankaragucu
Goztepe v Gaziantepspor
Besiktas v Adanaspor
Samsunspor v Altay
Genclerbirligi v Galatasaray
Diyarbakirspor v Denizlispor
Istanbulspor v Malatyaspor
Kocaelispor v Fenerbahce
Bursaspor v Elazigspor

November 29-December 1

Gaziantepspor v Trabzonspor
Altay v Bursaspor
Malatyaspor v Diyarbakirspor
Ankaragucu v Galatasaray
Adanaspor v Samsunspor
Elazigspor v Kocaelispor
Fenerbahce v Istanbulspor
Denizlispor v Goztepe
Besiktas v Genclerbirligi

December 6-8

Goztepe v Malatyaspor
Kocaelispor v Altay
Galatasaray v Besiktas
Samsunspor v Genclerbirligi
Ankaragucu v Gaziantepspor
Trabzonspor v Denizlispor
Diyarbakirspor v Fenerbahce
Istanbulspor v Elazigspor
Bursaspor v Adanaspor

December 20-22

Gaziantepspor v Galatasaray
Elazigspor v Diyarbakirspor
Denizlispor v Ankaragucu
Genclerbirligi v Bursaspor
Adanaspor v Kocaelispor
Altay v Istanbulspor
Fenerbahce v Goztepe
Malatyaspor v Trabzonspor
Besiktas v Samsunspor

Second half of season begins on February 7, 2003

TRANSFERS SERVICE

In at Villa...Swede Marcus Allback has moved to England from Holland's Heerenveen

	POS	FROM	TO
ABELARDO	D	Barcelona	Alaves
Samassi ABOU	F	Ajaccio	Lorient
Milenko ACIMOVIC	M	Red Star Belgrade	Tottenham
Roberto ACUNA	M	Zaragoza	Deportivo La Coruna
Daniele ADANI	D	Fiorentina	Internazionale
ADRIANO	F	Internazionale	Parma (loan)
AFONSO	F	Atletico Mineiro	Orgryte
Hassan AHAMADA	F	Nantes	Bastia (loan)
Eric AKOTO	M	Grazer AK	Austria Wien
Nassim AKROUR	F	Istres	Troyes
Demetrio ALBERTINI	M	Milan	Atletico Madrid (loan)
Marcello ALBINO	M	Ancona	Modena
ALFONSO Perez	F	Barcelona	Real Betis (loan)
Herve ALICARTE	D	Bordeaux	Ajaccio
Marcus ALLBACK	F	Heerenveen	Aston Villa
Matias ALMEYDA	M	Parma	Internazionale
AMARAL	M	Fiorentina	Besiktas
AMAURI	F	Parma	Empoli (loan)
Nicola AMORUSO	F	Juventus	Perugia (loan)
ANDERSON	F	Alverca	Benfica
Bogsan ANDONE	M	Otelul Galati	Ferencvaros
ANDRE LUIZ Moreira	D	Marseille	Paris Saint-Germain
Nicolas ANELKA	F	Paris Saint-Germain	Manchester City
Markus ANFANG	M	FC Tirol	Kaiserslautern
ANTONIO LOPEZ	G	Atletico Madrid	Osasuna
Stephen APPIAH	M	Parma	Brescia
Rodolfo AQUINO	M	Colon Santa Fe	Estudiantes LP
ARTEAGA	M	Rayo Vallecano	Espanyol
Mikhail ASHVETIA	F	FC Copenhagen	Alaniya Vladikavkaz (loan)
Mattias ASPER	M	Real Sociedad	Malmo
Marcos ASSUNCAO	M	Roma	Real Betis
Federico ASTUDILLO	F	Talleres Cordoba	Huelva
Juan C AZCONZABAL	D	Estudiantes LP	Tecos UAG
Phil BABB	D	Sporting Lisbon	Sunderland
Mirko BABIC	M	Osijek	Bayer Leverkusen
Ilan BACHAR	D	Hapoel Tel Aviv	Racing Santander
Marius BACIU	D	Steaua Bucharest	Lille
Davide BAIOCCO	M	Perugia	Juventus
Rabiu BAITA	F	Kano Pillars	Paris Saint-Germain
Jacek BAK	D	Lyon	Lens
Dagui BAKARI	F	Lille	Lens
Abel BALBO	F	Roma	Boca Juniors
Srdjan BALJAK	F	Partizan Belgrade	Consadole Sapporo
Elvir BALJIC	F	Real Madrid	Galatasaray
Miroslav BARANEK	M	Koln	Sparta Prague
Nick BARMBY	M	Liverpool	Leeds
Simone BARONE	M	Chievo	Parma
Roberto BARONIO	M	Fiorentina	Lazio
Chris BART-WILLIAMS	M	out of contract	Charlton
Christian BASSILA	M	Rennes	Strasbourg
Michael BAUR	D	FC Tirol	Hamburg
Zoubeir BAYA	M	Besiktas	Al Arabi (Qat)
Xavier BECAS	F	Sedan	Ajaccio
Radek BEJBL	M	Lens	Slavia Prague
Juliano BELLETTI	D	Sao Paulo	Villarreal
Samir BELOUFA	D	Germinal Beerschot	Bastia
Diego BENAGLIA	G	Grasshopper	Stuttgart (loan)
Yossi BENAYOUN	F	Maccabi Haifa	Racing Santander
Patrick BENEFORTI	M	Bastia	Udinese
Daniel BIEROFKA	M	1860 Munich	Bayer Leverkusen
Jonatan BINOTTO	M	Brescia	Como
Mikkel BISCHOFF	D	AB Copenhagen	Manchester City
BIZU	F	Floriana	Sliema Wanderers
Serge BLANC	D	Lyon	Montpellier
Hector BLANCO	D	Libertad	San Lorenzo (Arg)
Jonathan BLONDEL	M	Excelsior Mouscron	Tottenham
George BOATENG	M	Aston Villa	Middlesbrough
Daniel BOGDANOVIC	F	Naxxar Lions	Valletta
Igor BOGDANOVIC	F	Vojvodina	Red Star Belgrade
Rade BOGDANOVIC	F	Werder Bremen	Arminia Bielefeld
Alain BOGHOSSIAN	M	Parma	Espanyol
Daniele BONERA	D	Brescia	Parma
Victor BONILLA	F	Unattached	Montpellier
Nicolas BONNAL	M	Troyes	Lille
Marco BORRIELLO	F	Treviso	Milan
Alejandro BOTERO	M	Deportivo Cali	Independiente (Arg)
Nourdin BOUKHARI	F	Sparta Rotterdam	Ajax
Michael BOULDING	M	Grimsby	Aston Villa
Titus BRAMBLE	D	Ipswich	Newcastle
Gary BREEN	D	Coventry	West Ham
Andres BRESSAN	D	Villarreal	Talleres Cordoba
Marco BRIGHI	M	Rimini	Juventus
Matteo BRIGHI	M	Bologna	Juventus
Joe BRINCAT	M	Birkirkara	Sliema Wanderers
David BROCKEN	D	Standard Liege	Lommel

	POS	FROM	TO
BRUNO	M	Maritimo	FC Porto
Jerzy BRZECZEK	M	FC Tirol	Sturm Graz
Thomas BUFFEL	M	Excelsior	Feyenoord
Martin BUHLER	M	Grasshopper	Aarau
Hernan BUJAN	M	Huracan	Morelia
BULENT Akin	M	Galatasaray	Bolton
Jose M BULJUBASICH	G	Morelia	River Plate (Arg)
Eduardo BUSTOS MONTOYA	F	Atlas	Lanus (loan)
Gabriel CABALLERO	M	Pachuca	Atlas
CAFU	F	Belenenses	Boavista
Mauro CAMORANESI	M	Verona	Juventus
Nicola CAMPEDELLI	M	Salernitana	Modena
Gregory CAMPI	M	Bari	Lille
Patricio CAMPS	F	Velez Sarsfield	Tecos UAG
Fabio CANNAVARO	D	Parma	Internazionale
Paolo CANNAVARO	D	Verona	Parma
Benito CARBONE	F	Bradford	Como
Martin CARDETTI	F	River Plate (Arg)	Paris Saint-Germain
Fabian CARINI	G	Juventus	Arsenal (loan)
CARLOS FERNANDES	D	Farense	Belenenses
Raul CASCINI	M	Toulouse	Boca Juniors
Diego CASTAGNO SUAREZ	M	Colon Santa Fe	Independiente (Arg)
Luca CASTELLAZZI	G	Brescia	Reggina
Benoit CAUET	M	Torino	Como
Petr CECH	G	Sparta Prague	Rennes
Fabio CELESTINI	M	Troyes	Marseille
Walter CENTENO	M	Deportivo Saprissa	AEK Athens
CESAR Fernandez	D	Racing Santander	Athletic Bilbao
CESAR PEIXOTO	M	Belenenses	FC Porto
CHA Doo-ri	F	Korea University	Bayer Leverkusen
Frederic CHASSOT	F	Zurich	Aarau
Jose CHATRUC	M	Racing Club (Arg)	San Lorenzo (Arg)
Stanislav CHERCHESOV	G	FC Tirol	Moscow Spartak
Bruno CHEYROU	M	Lille	Liverpool
Antonio CHIMENTI	G	Lecce	Juventus
Justice CHRISTOPHER	M	Royal Antwerp	Levski Sofia
Ted CHRONOPOULOS	M	New England Rev	MetroStars
Sasa CIRIC	F	Eintracht Frankfurt	Nurnberg
Aliou CISSE	D	Paris Saint-Germain	Birmingham
Edouard CISSE	M	Paris Saint-Germain	West Ham (loan)
Martin CIZEK	M	Unterhaching	Banik Ostrava
Paul CLAUDEL	M	Asmy Yaounde	Mouscron
Francesco COCO	D	Milan	Internazionale
Fabrizio COLOCCINI	D	Milan	Atletico Madrid (loan)
Leonardo COLUCCI	M	Verona	Bologna
Pablo CONTRERAS	D	Celta Vigo	Sporting Lisbon
Oscar CORDOBA	G	Boca Juniors	Besiktas (loan)
Daniel CORDONE	F	Argentinos Juniors	San Lorenzo (Arg)
Bernardo CORRADI	F	Chievo	Internazionale
CRISTIANO	D	Beira Mar	Benfica
Mario CUENCA	G	Talleres Cordoba	Racing Club (Arg)
Kenny CUNNINGHAM	D	Wimbledon	Birmingham
Pascal CYGAN	D	Lille	Arsenal
Ali DAEI	F	Hertha Berlin	Al Shabab (UAE)
Dario DAINELLI	D	Verona	Brescia
Sam DALLA BONA	M	Chelsea	Milan
Gael DANIC	M	Rennes	Guingamp
DANNY	M	Maritimo	Sporting Lisbon
Jean-Claude DARCHEVILLE	F	Lorient	Bordeaux
Ivone DE FRANCESCHI	M	Venezia	Chievo
Ulises DE LA CRUZ	M	Hibernian	Aston Villa
Enrique DE LUCAS	M	Espanyol	Chelsea
Sebastian DEISLER	M	Hertha Berlin	Bayern Munich
Marcelo DELGADO	F	Boca Juniors	FC Copenhagen
Traianos DELLAS	D	Perugia	Roma
Georgi DEMETRADZE	F	Real Sociedad	Alaniya Vladikavkaz (loan)
Luca DENICOLA	D	Grasshopper	Young Boys (loan)
DERLAI	F	Uniao Leiria	FC Porto
Yves DEROFF	M	Nantes	Strasbourg
Jose DEVACA	D	Cerro Porteno	San Lorenzo (Arg)
Didier DHEDEENE	M	1860 Munich	Austria Wien
Mamadou DIALLO	F	New England Rev	MetroStars
Salif DIAO	M	Sedan	Liverpool
Alou DIARRA	M	Bayern Munich	Liverpool
Alou DIARRA	M	Liverpool	Le Havre (loan)
Mahamadou DIARRA	M	Vitesse Arnhem	Lyon
Kaba DIAWARA	F	Paris Saint-Germain	Nice (loan)
Leo DIAZ	G	Colon Santa Fe	Independiente (Arg)
DIOGO	D	Benfica	Beira Mar
El Hadji DIOUF	F	Lens	Liverpool
Sylvain DISTIN	D	Paris Saint-Germain	Manchester City
Laurent DJAFFO	F	Sheffield Utd	Aberdeen
Radomir DJALOVIC	F	Red Star Belgrade	Zagreb
Martin DJETOU	D	Parma	Fulham (loan)
Juan C DOCABO	G	Nueva Chicago	Estudiantes LP

	POS	FROM	TO
Federico DOMINGUEZ	M	Velez Sarsfield	Independiente (Arg)
Massimo DONATI	M	Parma	Milan (loan)
Matias DONNET	M	Venezia	Boca Juniors
Emmanuel DORADO	D	Malaga	Livingston
Vaclav DROBNY	D	Chmel Blsany	Strasbourg
Pierre DUCROQ	M	Paris Saint-Germain	Le Havre
Richard DUTRUEL	G	Barcelona	Alaves
Johnny ECKER	D	Lille	Marseille
EDER	M	Central Inhumense	Benfica
EDILSON	F	Cruzeiro	Kashiwa Reysol
EDU Alonso	D	Las Palmas	Alaves
Daniel EDUSEI	M	Ethnikos Asteras	Aigaleo
Nader EL SAYED	G	Club Brugge	Akratitos
EMERSON Moises Costa	M	Deportivo La Coruna	Atletico Madrid
Robert ENKE	G	Benfica	Barcelona
Walter ERVITI	M	San Lorenzo (Arg)	Atletico Morelia
Alejandro ESCALONA	D	River Plate (Arg)	Lanus
Antonio ESPOSITO	F	Saint-Etienne	Basle
Christophe ETTORI	M	Gueugnon	Ionikos
EULLER	F	Vasco da Gama	Kashima Antlers
Patrice EVRA	D	Nice	Monaco
FABIO PINTO	M	Internacional	Galatasaray
Nestor FABBRI	D	Nantes	Guingamp
Delroy FACEY	F	Huddersfield	Bolton
Gianluca FALSINI	D	Atalanta	Parma
Laurent FASSOTTE	D	RWDM	Lierse
Olivier FAUCONNIER	F	Gueugnon	Le Havre
Miklos FEHER	F	FC Porto	Benfica
Simon FEINDOUNO	M	Nice	Lens
Jorge Loureiro FELIPE	M	Vasco da Gama	Galatasaray
Rio FERDINAND	D	Leeds	Manchester United
David FERNANDEZ	F	Livingston	Celtic
Juan Ramon FERNANDEZ	D	Estudiantes de la Plata	Borussia Dortmund
Vincent FERNANDEZ	G	Sochaux	Strasbourg
Fabrice FIORESE	F	Guingamp	Paris Saint-Germain
Fabio FIRMANI	M	Bologna	Chievo
Sylvain FLAUTO	M	Gueugnon	Ionikos
Andres FLEURQUIN	M	Sturm Graz	Rennes
Thomas FLOGEL	M	Hearts	Austria Wien
Marc-Vivien FOE	M	Lyon	Manchester City (loan)
FRANCA	F	Sao Paulo	Bayer Leverkusen
Guillermo FRANCO	M	San Lorenzo (Arg)	Monterrey
Alessandro FRARA	M	Juventus	Bologna (loan)
Salvatore FRESI	D	Bologna	Juventus
Arne FRIEDRICH	D	Arminia Bielefeld	Hertha Berlin
Manuel FRIEDRICH	D	Mainz	Werder Bremen
Gunter FRIESENBICHLER	F	Loben	Xanthi
Torsten FRINGS	M	Werder Bremen	Borussia Dortmund
Nicolas FRUTOS	F	Union Santa Fe	San Lorenzo (Arg)
Esteban FUERTES	F	Lens	River Plate (Arg) (loan)
Walter GAITAN	M	Boca Juniors	Tigres
Carlos GAMARRA	D	AEK Athens	Internazionale
Facundo GARECA	F	Arsenal (Arg)	Comunicaciones (Gtm)
Daniele GASTELDELLO	D	Padova	Juventus
Carmine GAUTIERI	M	Piacenza	Atalanta
Grigoris GEORGATOS	D	Internazionale	AEK Athens
GEREMI Njitap	D	Real Madrid	Middlesbrough
Alberto GILARDINO	F	Verona	Parma
GILBERTO SILVA	M	Atletico Mineiro	Arsenal
Radoslaw GILEWICZ	F	FC Tirol	Austria Wien
Edi GLIEDER	F	FC Tirol	Pasching
Ezequiel GONZALEZ	M	Rosario Central	Boca Juniors
Jocelyn GOURVENNEC	M	Rennes	Bastia
Sean GREGAN	M	Preston	West Brom
Vratislav GRESKO	D	Internazionale	Parma
Stephane GRICHTING	D	Sion	Auxerre
Gaetano GRIECO	F	Parma	Empoli
Josep GUARDIOLA	M	Brescia	Roma
Thordur GUDJONSSON	F	Las Palmas	Bochum
Adrian GUILLERMO	F	Boca Juniors	Jorge Wilstermann
Arnar GUNNLAUGSSON	F	Leicester	Dundee United
Sergei GURENKO	D	Parma	Piacenza
Adnan GUSO	G	Moscow Spartak	Sarajevo
Gunnar HALLE	D	Bradford	Lillestrom
Angelos HARISTEAS	F	Aris Salonika	Werder Bremen
Magnus HEDMAN	G	Coventry	Celtic
Dirk HEINEN	G	Eintracht Frankfurt	Denizlispor
Luis HELGUERA	M	Udinese	Alaves
Thorstein HELSTAD	F	Brann Bergen	Austria Wien
Daniel HERNANDEZ	M	MetroStars	New England Rev
Martin HERRERA	G	Alaves	Fulham
HUGO VIANA	M	Sporting Lisbon	Newcastle
Patrick IBANDA	M	Sharks Port Harcourt	Vorskla Poltava
Robert IBERTSBERGER	D	FC Tirol	Venezia
ICO	M	Vitoria Setubal	Boavista

	POS	FROM	TO
Pius IKEDIA	M	Ajax	Groningen (loan)
Facundo IMBODEN	D	Boca Juniors	Basle
Junichi INAMOTO	M	Gamba Osaka	Fulham (loan)
Paul INCE	M	Middlesbrough	Wolves
Denis IRWIN	D	Manchester United	Wolves
Valerien ISMAEL	D	Lens	Olympiakos
Georgi IVANOV	F	Levski Sofia	Rennes
Tomasz IWAN	M	Austria Wien	Admira Wacker
JACQUES	F	Uniao Leiria	Maritimo
JADILSON	D	Guarani	Consadole Sapporo
Carsten JANCKER	F	Bayern Munich	Udinese
Edgaras JANKAUSKAS	F	Benfica	FC Porto
Marek JANKULOVSKI	M	Napoli	Udinese
JAVI MORENO	F	Milan	Atletico Madrid (loan)
Ivan JAVORCIC	M	Treviso	Atalanta
JORGE ANDRADE	D	FC Porto	Deportivo La Coruna
JOSE MARI	F	Milan	Atletico Madrid
JUAN	D	Flamengo	Bayer Leverkusen
JULIO ALVAREZ	M	Racing Santander	Rayo Vallecano
JUNINHO Paulista	M	Atletico Madrid	Middlesbrough
Andrzej JUSKOWIAK	F	Wolfsburg	Energie Cottbus
Zeljko KALAC	G	Roda JC	Perugia
Raymond KALLA	D	Extremadura	Bochum
Diomansy KAMARA	F	Modena	Chievo
Brian KAMLER	M	MetroStars	New England Rev
Aitor KARANKA	D	Real Madrid	Athletic Bilbao
Valeri KARPIN	M	Celta Vigo	Real Sociedad
Bartsz KARWAN	M	Legia Warsaw	Hertha Berlin
Theofanis KATERGIANAKIS	G	Aris Salonika	Olympiakos
Kostas KATSOURANIS	M	Panahaiki	AEK Athens
Seydou KEITA	M	Lorient	Lens
Marcel KETELAER	F	Hamburg	Monchengladbach
Roland KIRCHLER	M	FC Tirol	Beijing Guoan (Chn)
Richard KITZBICHLER	M	Salzburg	Hamburg
Julian KMET	M	Nueva Chicago	Estudiantes LP
Richard KNOPPER	M	Ajax	Aris Salonika
Matthias KOCH	D	Fortuna Koln	Kaiserslautern
Walter KOGLER	M	FC Tirol	Karnten
Igor KORNEEV	F	Feyenoord	NAC Breda
Petr KOUBA	G	Koln	Sparta Prague
Michel KREEK	M	Vitesse Arnhem	AEK Athens
Radovan KRIVOKAPIC	M	Vojvodina	Red Star Belgrade
Nenad KUTLACIC	D	Radnik Bijejina	Partizan
Vitaly KUTUZOV	F	Milan	Sporting Lisbon (loan)
Raymond KVISVIK	M	Brann Bergen	Austria Wien
Todor KYUCHUKOV	G	CSKA Sofia	Sigma Olomouc
Gregory LACOMBE	M	Monaco	Ajaccio
Federico LAGORIO	F	Maritimo	Olimpia
Pierre LAIGLE	M	Lyon	Montpellier
Michael LAMEY	D	RKC Waalwijk	PSV Eindhoven
Ulrik LAURSEN	D	Hibernian	Celtic
Garba LAWAL	M	Roda JC	Levski Sofia
Nikola LAZETIC	M	Fenerbahce	Como
Arnaud LE LAN	D	Lorient	Rennes
Christophe LE ROUX	M	Rennes	Guingamp
LEANDRO	F	Lausanne	Neuchatel Xamax
Cristian LEDESMA	M	River Plate (Arg)	Hamburg
LEE Eul-yong	M	Bucheon SK	Trabzonspor
Cristian LEIVA	M	Banfield	Cruz Azul
Nzelo LEMBI	D	Club Brugge	Kaiserslautern
Jerome LEROY	M	Marseille	Paris Saint-Germain
LI Tie	M	Liaoning Bodao	Everton (loan)
LI Weifeng	D	Shandong	Everton (loan)
Dmitry LIKHTAROVICH	M	Dnepr-Transmash	BATE Borisov
Apostolos LIOLIDIS	F	Aris Salonika	Atalanta
Andreas LIPA	D	Grazer AK	Xanthi
Patrick LODEWUKS	G	PSV Eindhoven	Feyenoord
Gabriel LOESCHBOR	D	Racing Club (Arg)	Rennes
Patrice LOKO	F	Troyes	Lorient
Johann LONFAT	M	Servette	Sochaux
Antonio LOPEZ	D	Atletico Madrid	Osasuna
Tyrone LORAN	D	Volendam	Manchester City
Joachim LOW	D	Ujpest	Energie Cottbus
Stefano LUCCHINI	D	Ternana	Empoli (loan)
Trond Fredrik LUDVIGSEN	F	Hertha Berlin	Rosenborg
LUIS PRIETO	D	Libar	Athletic Bilbao
LUIX CLAUDIO	F	Sport Recife	Boavista
LUIZAO	F	Gremio	Hertha Berlin
LUQUE	F	Atletico Madrid	Espanyol
Anthony LURLING	F	Heerenveen	Feyenoord
Federico LUSSENHOFF	D	Tenerife	Mallorca
Fabrice LUZI	G	Monaco	Liverpool
Massimo MACCARONE	F	Empoli	Middlesbrough
Kim MADSEN	D	FC Copenhagen	Werder Bremen
Roman MAHLICH	M	Sturm Graz	Giannina

	POS	FROM	TO
Julian MAIDANA	D	Talleres Cordoba	Racing Club (Arg)
Wolfgang MAIR	D	FC Tirol	Hamburg
Radoslaw MAJDAN	G	Goztepe	PAOK Salonika
Ariza MAKUKULA	F	Salamanca	Nantes
Gregory MALICKI	G	Rennes	Lille
Vladimir MANCHEV	F	CSKA Sofia	Lille
Amedeo MANGONE	D	Brescia	Piacenza
Alex MANNINGER	G	Arsenal	Espanyol
Paulo Roberto MARCHADO	M	Agno	Young Boys
Julio MARCHANT	M	Boca Juniors	Racing Club (Arg)
Diego MARCOLIN	M	Sampdoria	Piacenza
MARCOS ASSUNCAO	M	Roma	Real Betis
MARCOS PAULO	M	Cruzeiro	Sporting Lisbon
Enzo MARESCA	M	Juventus	Piacenza
Juan Carlos MARIN	G	Figueres	Sevilla
Lee MARSHALL	M	Leicester	West Brom
Carlos MARTINEZ	F	Levante	Recreativo
Gilberto MARTINEZ	D	Deportivo Saprissa	Brescia
Jorge MARTINEZ	D	Boca Juniors	Colon Santa Fe
MATUZALEM	M	Piacenza	Parma
Florian MAURICE	F	Marseille	Bastia
Kevin McGOWNE	D	Kilmarnock	Dundee United
Gary McSWEGAN	F	Hearts	Kilmarnock
Thomas MEGGLE	M	St Pauli	Hansa Rostock
Elvir MELUNOVIC	M	Grasshopper	Aarau (loan)
Sebastian MENDEZ	D	Velez Sarsfield	Celta Vigo
Gaizka MENDIETA	M	Lazio	Barcelona (loan)
Bernard MENDY	D	Paris Saint-Germain	Bolton (loan)
John MENSAH	D	Genoa	Chievo
Juan MERINO	M	Real Betis	Recreativo
Remo MEYER	D	Lausanne	1860 Munich
Fabrizio MICCOLI	F	Juventus	Perugia (loan)
Sebastien MICHALOVSKI	D	Lille	Montpellier
Dragoslav MLADENOVIC	D	Zemun	Red Star Belgrade
Thabang MOLEFE	D	Jomo Cosmos	Lyn Oslo
Farid MONDRAGON	G	Metz	Galatasaray
Mariano MONRROY	F	Arsenal (Arg)	La Piedad
Daniel MONTENEGRO	F	Huracan	Independiente (Arg)
Lubomir MORAVCIC	M	Celtic	JEF United Ichihara
Emiliano MORETTI	D	Fiorentina	Juventus
Domenico MORFEO	F	Fiorentina	Internazionale
Guillermo MORIGI	M	Velez Sarsfield	Racing Club (Arg)
Gaby MUDINGAY	M	Gent	La Louviere
Andre MUFF	D	Lugano	Lucerne
MURAT Akarsu	G	Sekerspor	Samsunspor
Edwin MURATI	M	Lille	Iraklis
Joe MURPHY	G	Tranmere	West Brom
Thomas MYHRE	G	Besiktas	Sunderland
Shunsuke NAKAMURA	M	Yokohama F Marinos	Reggina (loan)
Lilian NALIS	M	Bastia	Chievo
Dimitris NALITZIS	F	Udinese	AEK Athens
NENE	D	Gremio	Hertha Berlin
Jorgen NIELSEN	G	Liverpool	Farum
Ruslan NIGMATULLIN	G	Verona	CSKA Moscow
Krister NORDIN	D	Brondby	AIK Stockholm
Pascal NOUMA	F	Marseille	Besiktas
NUNO GOMES	F	Fiorentina	Benfica
NUNO SANTOS	G	Beira Mar	Benfica
Alex NYARKO	M	Everton	Paris Saint-Germain (loan)
Jozef OBAJDIN	M	Koln	Sparta Prague
Carlos OCHOA	F	Tigres	Osasuna
Massimo ODDO	D	Verona	Lazio
Jay-Jay OKOCHA	M	Paris Saint-Germain	Bolton
Paul OKON	M	Middlesbrough	Leeds
Juan C OLAVE	G	Belgrano Cordoba	Gimnasia LP
Salomon OLEMBE	M	Nantes	Marseille (permanent from loan)
Ivica OLIC	F	Zagreb	Dinamo Zagreb
Wilson ORUMA	M	Servette	Sochaux
Ariel ORTEGA	M	River Plate (Arg)	Fenerbahce
Yksel OSMANOVSKI	F	Bordeaux	Torino
PABLO LAGO	F	Las Palmas	Racing Santander
Pasquale PADALINO	D	Bologna	Como
Gregory PAISLEY	M	Paris Saint-Germain	Le Havre (loan)
Andrej PANADIC	D	Sturm Graz	Nagoya Grampus Eight
Jurgen PANIS	M	FC Tirol	Austria Wien
Andrea PANSERA	G	Albinoleffe	Bologna
Christian PANUCCI	D	Monaco	Roma (permanent from loan)
Michele PARAMATTI	D	Juventus	Bologna
Carlos PAREDES	M	FC Porto	Reggina
PAULINHO GUARA	F	Atletico Mineiro	Orgryte
PAULO CESAR	D	Fluminense	Paris Saint-Germain
PAULO SERGIO	F	Bayern Munich	Al Wahda (UAE)
Miran PAVLIN	M	FC Porto	Samsunspor
Fabio PECCHIA	M	Bologna	Como
PEDRO EMANUEL	D	Boavista	FC Porto

	POS	FROM	TO
Marc Sebastian PELZER	D	Kaiserslautern	Blackburn
Charles PEREZ	D	Chacarita Juniors	Cerro Porteno
Olof PERSSON	M	FC Tirol	Malmo
PETIT	M	Boavista	Benfica
Dusan PETKOVIC	D	Wolfsburg	Nurnberg
Michael PETKOVIC	G	South Melbourne	Trabzonspor
Anto PETROVIC	D	FC Tirol	Sturm Graz
Jorgen PETTERSON	F	Kaiserslautern	FC Copenhagen
Javier PINOLA	D	Chacarita Juniors	Atletico Madrid
Attila PINTE	M	Ferencvaros	Panionios
Fabio PINTO	M	Internacional (Bra)	Galatasaray
Karel POBORSKY	M	Lazio	Sparta Prague
Paolo POGGI	F	Piacenza	Parma
Gheorghe POPESCU	D	Lecce	Dinamo Bucharest
Stefan POSTMA	G	De Graafschap	Aston Villa
Christian POULSEN	M	FC Copenhagen	Schalke
Roy PRAGER	F	Hamburg	Wolfsburg
Rada PRICA	F	Helsingborgs	Hansa Rostock
Livio Armando PRIETO	M	Independiente (Arg)	AEK Athens
Robert PROSINECKI	M	Portsmouth	Olimpija Ljubljana
Ruben PULIDO	D	Getafe	Rayo Vallecano
QU Bo	F	Qingdao Yizhong	Tottenham (loan)
Franck RABARIVONY	D	Vitoria Guimaraes	Xanthi
Paul RACHUBKA	G	Manchester United	Charlton
Christian RAHN	M	St Pauli	Hamburg
Leonardo RAMOS	D	Chacarita Juniors	Estudiantes LP
Kenneth RASMUSSEN	D	Brondby	Helsingborgs
Jamie REDKNAPP	M	Liverpool	Tottenham
Jose Manuel REINA	G	Barcelona	Villarreal
Reuben REYES	M	Oviedo	Villarreal
Luigi RICCIO	M	Ancona	Piacenza
Rohan RICKETTS	M	Arsenal	Tottenham
Alessandro RINALDI	D	Chievo	Atalanta
Juan Roman RIQUELME	M	Boca Juniors	Barcelona
RIVALDO	F	Barcelona	Milan
Arjen ROBBEN	F	Groningen	PSV
ROBSON	F	Moscow Spartak	Lorient
Romain ROCCHI	M	Cannes	Paris Saint-Germain
Damian RODRIGUEZ	D	Nacional (Uru)	Shakhtar Donetsk
Maximiliano RODRIGUEZ	M	Newell's Old Boys	Espanyol
ROGERIO	M	Salamanca	Belenenses
ROMARIO	F	Vasco da Gama	Fluminense
Julio ROSSI	F	Lugano	Basle
Frank ROST	G	Werder Bremen	Schalke
Dario ROTA	D	Lugano	Lucerne
Regis ROTHENBUHLER	M	Lugano	Lucerne
Gary ROWETT	D	Leicester	Charlton
Eric ROY	M	Rayo Vallecano	Nice
Bjorn RUNSTROM	F	Bologna	Chievo
Sigurd RUSHFELDT	F	Racing Santander	Austria Wien (perm't from loan)
Zoltan SABO	D	Suwon Bluewings	Avispa Fukuoka
Klaus SALMUTTER	D	Schalke	Sturm Graz
Vinny SAMWAYS	M	Las Palmas	Sevilla
SANA	F	Lamego	Boavista
Marcelo SARMIENTO	M	Talleres Cordoba	CSKA Sofia
Mohamed Adama SARR	D	Milan	Galatasaray (loan)
Luigi SARTOR	D	Parma	Roma
Luca SAUDATI	F	Atalanta	Empoli
Facundo SAVA	F	Gimnasia LP	Fulham
Robbie SAVAGE	M	Leicester	Birmingham
Gennaro SCARLATO	M	Udinese	Torino
Peter SCHMEICHEL	G	Aston Villa	Manchester City
Gabi SCHURRER	D	Las Palmas	Real Sociedad
Clarence SEEDORF	M	Internazionale	Milan
Tibor SELYMES	M	Haladas	Debrecen
Nestor SENSINI	D	Parma	Udinese
Serhii SEREBRENNIKOV	F	Kyiv Dynamo	Club Brugge
Matteo SERENI	G	Ipswich	Brescia (loan)
SERGEN Yalcin	M	Galatasaray	Besiktas
SERGI	D	Barcelona	Atletico Madrid
Juan J SERIZUELA	D	San Lorenzo (Arg)	Independiente (Arg)
Diego SERNA	F	MetroStars	New England Rev
Mauricio SERNA	M	Boca Juniors	Puebla
Alessio SETSU	M	Lazio	Modena
MacBeth SIBAYA	M	Jomo Cosmos	Rosenborg
Milovan SIKIMIC	D	Mladenovac	Guingamp
Victor SIKORA	F	Vitesse	Ajax
Jan SIMAK	M	Hannover 96	Bayer Leverkusen
Marko SIMEUNOVIC	G	Maribor	Olympiakos (Cyp)
Dario SIMIC	D	Internazionale	Milan
Sebastiano SIVIGLIA	D	Roma	Parma
Samuel SLOVAK	F	Tenerife	Slovan Liberec
Allan SMART	F	Oldham	Dundee United
Youssef SOFIANE	M	Auxerre	West Ham

	POS	FROM	TO
Mauricio SOLIS	D	Alajuelense	OFI Crete
Ragnvald SOMA	D	West Ham	Bryne
SONG Chong-gug	M	Busan I.cons	Feyenoord
Rigobert SONG	D	West Ham	Lens
Juan Pablo SORIN	M	Cruzeiro	Lazio
Marek SPILAR	D	Sigma Olomouc	Club Brugge
Jiri STAJNER	F	Slovan Liberec	Hannover 96
Luke STEELE	G	Peterborough	Manchester United
Miroslav STEVIC	M	Borussia Dortmund	Fenerbahce
Marco STORARI	G	Ancona	Empoli
Jeff STRASSER	D	Kaiserslautern	Borussia Monchengladbach
Gary SUNDGREN	D	Zaragoza	AIK Stockholm
Takayuki SUZUKI	F	Kashima Antlers	Genk (loan)
Michael SVENSSON	D	Troyes	Southampton
Filip TAPALOVIC	D	1860 Munich	Bochum
Hector TAPIA	F	Palestino	Lille
Selim TEBER	F	Waldhof Mannheim	Kaiserslautern
Jelle TEN ROUWELAAR	G	Emmen	PSV Eindhoven
Sean THORNTON	M	Tranmere	Sunderland
Hannu TIHINEN	D	Viking Stavanger	Anderlecht
Christian TIMM	F	Koln	Kaiserslautern
Andy TODD	D	Charlton	Blackburn
Attila TOKOLI	F	Dunaferr	Ferencvaros
Jon Dahl TOMASSON	F	Feyenoord	Milan
TONI	D	Benfica	Beira Mar
Stefano TORRISI	D	Marseille	Parma
Alioune TOURE	M	Manchester City	Paris Saint-Germain
Onder TURAKI	M	La Louviere	Standard Liege
Kevin TWADDLE	M	Motherwell	Hearts
UMIT Aydin	M	Altay	Samsunspor
UMIT Davala	M	Milan	Internazionale
UMIT Davala	M	Internazionale	Galatasaray (loan)
Dante UNALI	D	Colon Santa Fe	Estudiantes LP
John UTAKA	F	Al Saad	Lens
Robert VAGNER	F	Ujpest	Energie Cottbus
Raimond VAN DER GOUW	G	Manchester United	West Ham
Remco VAN DER SCHAAF	D	Vitesse Arnhem	PSV Eindhoven
Jean-Paul VAN GASTEL	M	Ternana	Como
Joris VAN HOUT	M	Anderlecht	Monchengladbach
Davis VAN HOYWEGHEN	M	Eendracht Aalst	Gent
Kevin VANDENBERGH	F	Westerlo	Genk
Igli VANNUCCHI	M	Venezia	Empoli
Roman VASILYUK	F	Dinamo Minsk	Iraklis (loan)
Ivica VASTIC	F	Sturm Graz	Nagoya Grampus Eight
Remi VERCOUTRE	G	Montpellier	Lyon
Marco VERONESE	F	Verona	Chievo
Matthieu VERSCHUERE	M	Gent	Sedan
Yannick VERVALLE	D	Anderlecht	La Louviere
Manuel VIDRIO	D	Pachuca	Osasuna (loan)
Anton VRIESDE	D	KFC Uerdingen	Bochum
Matias VUOSO	F	Independiente (Arg)	Manchester City
Ronnie WALLWORK	D	Manchester United	West Brom
WASHINGTON	F	Ponte Preta	Fenerbahce
Heinz WEBER	G	FC Tirol	Sturm Graz
Roman WEIDENFELLER	G	Kaiserslautern	Borussia Dortmund
Derek WHYTE	D	Aberdeen	Partick
Morten WIEGHORST	D	Celtic	Brondby
Andy WILLIAMS	M	New England Rev	MetroStars
Lindsay WILSON	M	Sydney Olympic	PSV Eindhoven
Gerd WIMMER	D	Eintracht Frankfurt	Hansa Rostock
Richard WITSCHGE	M	Alaves	Ajax
Piotr WLODARCZYK	F	Auxerre	Widzew Lodz
Samuel WOWOAH	F	Halmstads	Djurgardens
Mauricio WRIGHT	D	Herediano	AEK Athens
Richard WRIGHT	G	Arsenal	Everton
Stephen WRIGHT	D	Liverpool	Sunderland
Sergei YASKOVICH	D	Anzhi Makhachkala	Dinamo Minsk
Joseph YOBO	D	Marseille	Everton
Dwight YORKE	F	Manchester United	Blackburn
Radoslav ZABAVNIK	D	Kosice	MSK Zilina
Antonio Carlos ZAGO	D	Roma	Besiktas
Marco ZAMBONI	D	Udinese	Modena
Alesandro ZAMPERINI	D	Portsmouth	Modena
Marco ZANCHI	D	Verona	Juventus
Clayton ZANE	F	Lillestrom	Anderlecht
Luciano ZAURI	M	Atalanta	Internazionale
ZE ROBERTO	M	Bayer Leverkusen	Bayern Munich
Damiano ZENONI	M	Atalanta	Milan
Cristian ZERMATTEN	M	Huracan	Colon Santa Fe
Hicham ZEROUALI	M	Aberdeen	Al Nasr (UAE)
Michal ZEWKAKOW	M	Mouscron	Anderlecht
Akis ZIKOS	M	AEK Athens	Monaco

FRANCE

Focus of attention...Jacques Santini faces the media after his appointment as France coach

Santini gets the nod

Andre Duclos on the reaction to the appointment of the new national coach

JACQUES SANTINI was hardly given breathing space as the new national team manager as he faced two games within just a few weeks of his appointment – a friendly against Tunisia and the first Euro 2004 qualifier, away to Cyprus.

Just Fontaine, once a free-scoring star for France and briefly team coach himself, probably had a point when he said that with France in a qualifying group also comprising Slovenia, Israel and Malta it hardly needed a team manager for them to qualify.

He also went on to criticise Santini for so tactfully saying on his appointment that he intended to have talks with the three players who had retired from international football after the World Cup debacle – Frank Leboeuf, Christophe Dugarry and Youri Djorkaeff. So far as Fontaine was concerned, France were well rid of them.

Santini was handed the national team job following his title success with Lyon last season. The 50-year-old led the club to their first championship, which was clinched after a dramatic final-day victory over long-time leaders Lens. His previous coaching positions include Toulouse, Lille, Saint-Etienne and Sochaux.

Santini was selected for the France job from a shortlist of four candidates following the dismissal of World Cup coach Roger Lemerre. The new man's appointment brought a somewhat ill-natured response from Aime Jacquet, who led France to their World Cup triumph in 1998. It was quite wrong, he declared, that a club manager such as Santini should be appointed rather than another figure from the coaching establishment, of whom there were two candidates on the shortlist – Raymond Domenech and Rene Girard (the fourth candidate was Philippe Troussier).

Lyon president Jean-Michel Aulas disagreed, strongly supporting Santini's appointment despite initially stating that he felt Lemerre should have been kept in place since the Euro 2004 qualifying group is, as Fontaine believes, so relatively easy.

Vulnerable...Leboeuf

Jacquet's views did seem a little irrational, given that Lemerre had so signally failed in the World Cup, above all in keeping an obviously vulnerable player such as Leboeuf in the defence, and indeed failing to bring in fresh blood and legs. And it hardly reflected well on the federation that they had actually and precipitately renewed Lemerre's contract in May, then been forced to sack him when he refused to resign after the World Cup.

Santini had given up the post of coach at Lyon three days after winning the title, deciding instead to resume his role as technical director at the club. He had held this position from 1997 until he replaced Bernard Lacombe as team coach in summer 2000. Those who know him well say that, though he has the reputation of being a poor communicator, he is, in fact, a much more open and ebullient person in private.

Santini stresses the difference of running a club, with the media contact from day to day, and being in charge of an international team that sees action only occasionally.

The last word on his appointment rested with Claude Simonet, the much-criticised federation president, who may well have been influenced by the fact that no less a figure than Michel Platini came out strongly for Santini, with whom he had played in their days with Saint-Etienne.

Simonet has not had an easy summer. First, Le Havre coach Jean-Francois Domergue revealed that it was he, in fact, who was Simonet's choice as national team boss, but that he did not feel sufficiently experienced for the job. Then, there was a row at the federation AGM about the fact that a previous promise to pay generous subsidies to the amateur section had not been scheduled for endorsement. This led to half the members abstaining from the vote of support for the budget, though it was passed comfortably without the dissidents.

Add to this the tumult over Lemerre being forced out and you can see that Simonet has had anything but an easy passage – failure in the Far East being perhaps the most significant factor, though this was hardly to be laid at his door.

Had Zinedine Zidane only been fit, it is surely arguable that France would have done a great deal better in Korea/Japan. He seemed as good, alert and inventive as ever in a pre-season friendly for Real Madrid against Liverpool.

Meanwhile, in a very long magazine interview, Zizou said very little about the World Cup. Reading between the lines you had the feeling that he felt it was wrong to sack Lemerre, but that there had been insufficient time to prepare for the finals and that the team's attitude may well have been too complacent. On his return to France from Asia, he watched none of the remaining games on TV until the Final itself, by which he was not overly impressed.

Should he have played in the warm-up friendly against South Korea in which he was so expensively injured? He admits that, in retrospect, it was a mistake, since he had had only three days' training after the long journey to Korea, but confesses also that he wanted to play. Meanwhile, his assertion that "we are all guilty" seems somewhat hard on himself.

He had kind words for Senegal, France's conquerors in the curtain-raiser in Seoul, not least for their physical condition, though you do wonder what he might have said had he watched their remarkable second-half collapse against Uruguay, when they threw away a three-goal lead and could so easily have gone down 4-3 in the closing seconds.

Lyon lead the way

The defending champions are the team to beat, says Nick Bidwell

Ajaccio

Last season, ex-Marseille and Bordeaux coach Rolland Courbis wrought a miracle at the Corsican club, steering a team of unknowns to the Second Division title. But Courbis will not be there as Ajaccio begin their first top-flight campaign for 29 years. Accused of taking kick-backs from transfers during his time at Marseille, he has been suspended from all football activity. His assistant Dominique Bijotat must now plot the survival of a side with the smallest budget in the League (£8 million).

Auxerre

Don't believe coach Guy Roux when he says he would be happy with a mid-table finish. With brilliant young talents such as striker Djibril Cisse and centre-back Philippe Mexes happy to stay on and players of the calibre of defender Jean-Alain Boumsong and midfielders Yann Lachuer and Olivier Kapo to call on, Roux's team should again be ensconced in the top three come next May. One potential headache for the coach could be the departure of Senegalese left-sided midfielder Khalilou Fadiga, whose exceptional World Cup has made him hot property. Only one new signing of note: Swiss Under-21 defender Stephane Grichting from Sion.

Bastia

In many ways, it was a summer of setbacks for the Corsicans, helpless to prevent the transfers to Italy of first-choice midfielders Patrick Beneforti (Udinese) and Lilian Nalis (Chievo), and then failing to persuade striker Tony Vairelles to stay on following a prolific season on loan from Lyon (14 goals). New boys such as attacking midfielder Jocelyn Gourvennec (ex-Rennes) and strikers Florian Maurice (Celta Vigo) and Hasan Ahamada (on loan from Nantes) all have something to prove after losing their way in recent years. Ex-Marseille and Montpellier coach Gerard Gili is the new man in charge.

Bordeaux

With Portuguese goalgetter Pauleta now in tandem with equally prolific new signing Jean-Claude Darcheville, from Lorient, the Girondins should have no trouble putting the ball in the net. They are strong in other areas too. Camel Meriem is an exciting creative prospect, Christophe Dugarry still has much to offer as an attacking midfielder, while a defence built around centre-back David Sommeil and France keeper Ulrich Rame – whose move to Barcelona fell through – will give little away. Title contenders.

Guingamp

Limited financial resources have meant wheeling and dealing in the transfer market, concentrating on out-of-contract or loan signings such as Argentinian libero Nestor Fabbri (Nantes), midfielders Christophe Le Roux and Gael Danic (Rennes) and Auxerre reserve keeper Ronan Le Crom. New coach Bertrand Marchand is looking to the team's strong Breton identity and fighting spirit to keep them up.

Le Havre

Boasting no fewer than 17 homegrown players and with an average age of just 23, the newly promoted Norman club will rely on the enthusiasm and raw talent of strikers Florent Sinama-Pongolle, Anthony Le Tallec and William Mocquet, defenders Cyril N'Diba and Pascal Chimbonda, and midfielder Yazid Mansouri. Coach Jean-Francois Domergue was shortlisted for the France national team job this summer.

Lens

Last season's runners-up received three body blows this summer – the sale of El Hadji Diouf to Liverpool, the decision of inspirational centre-back Valerien Ismael to leave on a Bosman for Olympiakos, and the retirement of fellow back-line stalwart Jean-Guy Wallemme. But the northern club should be able to rise quickly from the canvas. There is no reason why Daniel Moreira should not repeat his goalscoring feats of last term, Stephane Pedron and Antoine Sibierski are fine attacking midfielders, and once again the *Lensois* have brought in a number of good Africans, principally Cameroon stopper Rigobert Song (West Ham), Mali midfielder Seydou Keita (Lorient) and Nigerian winger John Utaka from Egyptian side Ismaili.

Lille

After some outstanding years, Lille supporters may have to downsize their expectations. Not only did the coach responsible for those glory days, Bosnian Vahid Halilhodzic, quit the club in May, but also a clutch of the team's stars followed suit – notably central defender Pascal Cygan, who joined Arsenal, goalscoring midfielder Bruno Cheyrou (Liverpool), striker Dagui Bakari (Lens) and full-back Johnny Ecker (Marseille). Halilhodzic's successor, Claude Puel, proved his worth by taking Monaco to the League title two years ago, but the jury is out on new attacking signings, Chilean Hector Tapia from Colo Colo and Bulgarian Vladimir Manchev (CSKA Sofia).

Lyon

No French club have achieved back-to-back League titles since Marseille in 1991 and 1992. But champions OL can be confident of holding on to their crown. They boast the best squad in France in terms of both quantity and quality, and in Brazilian World Cup central defender Edmilson, playmaker Eric Carriere, Under-21 striker Sidney Govou and Brazilian front man Sonny Anderson, they have individuals of the highest order. New to the squad are Malian defensive midfielder Mahamadou Diarra (from Vitesse Arnhem) and back-up keeper Remi Vercoutre (Montpellier), while schemer Vikash Dhorasoo and attacker Tony Vairelles are back in the fold after loan spells at Bordeaux and Bastia respectively. Recently installed France boss Jacques Santini has handed the coaching baton on to Paul Le Guen, previously in charge at Rennes.

Marseille

A new management team is in place at OM, with main shareholder Robert Louis-Dreyfus giving up the presidency to ex-journalist Christophe Bouchet, sports director Bernard Tapie leaving to concentrate on his acting career, and well-respected coach Alain

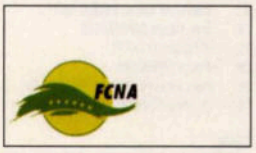
Perrin arriving from Troyes. Large debts have meant a virtual freeze on recruitment, with the first-team squad reduced from 37 to 25. After contemplating retirement, libero Frank Leboeuf stays on board for another season, while other key men will be strikers Lamine Sakho and Cyril Chapuis, Cameroon schemer Salomon Olembe, and Croat keeper Vedran Runje.

Monaco

A pitiful 15th last season, the Monegasques simply cannot do any worse. Surprisingly, there was no widespread clear-out, but the pressure is on coach Didier Deschamps for a top-five finish. Much more will be expected of Burundi striker Shabani Nonda, Argentinian playmaker Marcelo Gallardo, and fast-improving midfielder Jerome Rothen. President Jean-Louis Campora must decide whether to cash in on Mexico centre-back Rafael Marquez.

Montpellier

Mid-table in 2001-02, they were a top-heavy team, extremely solid in defence, but burdened with the worst attack in the division (only 28 goals). Coach Michel Mezy hopes their goalscoring potential will be boosted by new left-sided midfield provider Pierre Laigle from Lyon and the marksmanship of experienced Colombian striker Victor Bonilla (Deportivo Cali). Promising youngsters Habib Bamogo and Fode Mansare could also add bite to a hitherto toothless front line.



Nantes

Coach Angel Marcos must be thankful that the European transfer market is so stagnant; in more buoyant economic times such excellent youngsters as keeper Mickael Landreau, defensive midfielder Mathieu Berson and left-back Sylvain Armand would surely have moved on. The Nantais continue to swear by products of their fine youth system, but they did make one shopping excursion to buy Portuguese Under-21 striker Ariza Makukula.

Nice

Despite finishing third in the Second Division last term, the club were initially refused promotion because of their precarious financial position and at one point were even demoted to the third tier. But following a promise of cash from the local council, they were granted their Ligue 1 spot on appeal. The most important figures in coach Gernot Rohr's side are all-action Argentinian midfielder and skipper Pablito Rodriguez, defender Jose Cobos and much-travelled striker Kaba Diawara.

Paris Saint-Germain

After failing to qualify for the Champions League in the past two seasons, the pressure is on PSG coach Luis Fernandez to steer them back to the European mainstream. To do this he must abandon the safety-first tactics that cost them so many points last term. Dipping into the £17 million received from Manchester City for Nicolas Anelka, Fernandez signed Brazilian midfielder Andre Luiz – who did well last season on loan at Marseille from Tenerife – his compatriot, defender Paulo Cesar (Fluminense) and Argentinian striker Martin Cardetti (River Plate). Spanish midfielder Mikel Arteta will be missed now he has moved to Rangers, but Brazilian virtuoso Ronaldinho remains – for the time being.

Rennes

The Bretons were one of the few to spend heavily in the close season, paying Sparta Prague £3.3 million for Czech Under-21 keeper Peter Cech and Levski Sofia £2.7m for Bulgaria striker Georgi Ivanov. They also added Argentinian defender Gabriel Loeschbor (Racing Club) and Uruguayan midfielder Andres Fleurquin (Sturm Graz). Former Paris Saint-Germain boss Philippe Bergeroo is the new head coach.

Sedan

A page was turned at the Ardennes club this summer with the retirement of long-serving keeper Nicolas Sachy and the sale of first-teamers such as defenders Eduardo Oliveira (Saint-Etienne) and Jean-Louis Montero (Guingamp), and Senegalese World Cup midfielder Salif Diao (Liverpool). But despite the lack of new signings – Sedan prefer to invest in training facilities – quality players such as central defender Richard Jezierski, Cameroon midfielder Modeste Mbami and Senegal attacker Henri Camara should keep the wolf from the door.

Sochaux

Most impressive in finishing eighth last term and newly appointed boss Guy Lacombe – who succeeds the Metz-bound Jean Fernandez – believes his new team can qualify for Europe in 2002-03. Top-class youngsters like Senegalese full-back Omar Daf, midfielder Benoit Pedretti and attacker Pierre-Alain Frau are still in yellow and blue, while two new signings from Servette – Swiss Johann Lonfat and Nigerian Wilson Oruma – are more than useful additions to the midfield corps.

Strasbourg

Strasbourg were once renowned for their summer spending sprees and lavish wages. But those days are gone. Despite returning to the top flight after a year's absence, signings have been kept to a minimum. The only newcomers to Czech Ivan Hasek's squad are ex-Nantes full-back Yves Deroff, Czech Under-21 skipper and sweeper Vaclav Drobny (Chmel Blsany) and former Sochaux keeper Vincent Fernandez, who is tipped to supplant unwanted Paraguayan Jose Luis Chilavert.

Troyes

Alain Perrin, the inspirational coach who took Troyes all the way from the Fourth Division to the UEFA Cup, has left for Marseille. His successor, former Beauvais boss Jacky Bonnevay, voted the best in the Second Division last term, will be hard-pressed to maintain the club's recent high standards – seventh in each of the past two seasons. Swiss midfielder Fabio Celestini is in dispute with the club, forwards Patrice Loko and Samuel Boutal, and Swedish stopper Michael Svensson have all gone, and apart from striker Akrour Nassim (Istres), new buys have been thin on the ground.

THE NEW SEASON IN EUROPE

FRANCE SQUADS

AJACCIO

GOALKEEPERS
- ***Florian LUCCHINI***
- ***1 Herve SEKLI***
- 16 Stephane TREVISAN

DEFENDERS
- ***5 Herve ALICARTE***
- ***25 Xavier COLLIN***
- ***Yohan DEMONT***
- Christophe DESTRUHAUT
- David JAUREGUIBERRY
- Nicolas PLESTAN
- 3 Martial ROBIN
- ***Mamadou SECK***
- 4 David TERRIER

MIDFIELDERS
- Yannick ACHARD
- Renaud CONNEN
- 21 Cyril GRANON
- ***17 Stephane GREGOIRE***
- ***18 Gregory LACOMBE***
- 15 Fabrice LEVRAT
- ***20 Laurent MORACCHINI***
- ***10 Abdelnassar OUADAH***
- 8 Hoadid REGRAGUI (Mor)
- Gregory URSULE

FORWARDS
- ***6 Xavier BECAS***
- David FADERNE
- ***9 Walter GUGLIELMONE (Uru)***
- ***19 Mickael MARQUET***
- ***29 Bruno RODRIGUEZ***
- ***Thomas SOWUNMI (Hun)***

COACH
Dominique BUOTAT

OUT: Sahnoun (Bordeaux); Darbelet (Niort); N'Diaye (Dubai); Luzi (Monaco); Squillaci (Monaco); Abou (Lorient); Garcia (Saint-Etienne)

AUXERRE

GOALKEEPERS
- 1 Fabien COOL
- ***16 Sebastien HAMEL***

DEFENDERS
- 22 Philip ANIANKA (Nig)
- 29 Joseph ASSATI
- 4 Jean-Alain BOUMSONG
- ***13 Stephane GRICHTING (Swi)***
- 3 Jean-Sebastien JAURES
- 15 Frederic JAY
- 5 Philippe MEXES
- 26 Jean-Joel PERRIER DOUMBE
- 2 Johan RADET

MIDFIELDERS
- 6 Kuami AGBOH (Tog)
- ***24 Pierre DEBLOCK***
- 11 Khalilou FADIGA (Sen)
- 7 Amdy FAYE (Sen)
- 23 Olivier KAPO
- 8 Yann LACHUER
- 18 Lionel MATHIS
- 27 Francois SIRIEIX
- 10 Teemu TAINIO (Fin)

FORWARDS
- 9 Djibril CISSE
- 17 Helder ESTEVEZ (Por)
- 20 Arnaud GONZALES
- 19 Nicolas MARIN
- 21 Benjamin MWARUWARU (Zim)
- ***28 Romain POYET***
- 14 David VANDENBOSSCHE

COACH
Guy ROUX

OUT: Le Crom (Guingamp); Sopalski (Istres); Magnier (Amiens); Soufiane (West Ham); Diabate (Lille); Wlodarczyk (Widzew Lodz)

BASTIA

GOALKEEPERS
- 16 Ali BOUMNUEL (Tun)
- 1 Nicolas PENNETEAU

DEFENDERS
- ***22 Samir BELOUFA***
- 5 Demetrius FERREIRA (Bra)
- 2 Bernard LAMBOURDE
- 17 Franck MATINGOU
- 14 Frederic MENDY
- ***12 Patrick MOREAU***
- 3 Morlaye SOUMAH (Gui)
- 12 Cedric URAS
- Greg VANNEY (USA)
- ***21 Anther YAHIA***

MIDFIELDERS
- ***Nicolas ALNOUDJI (Cam)***
- 23 Valerio CHIARI (Ita)
- 25 Mickael ESSIEN (Gha)
- ***24 Paul ESSOLA***
- ***10 Jocelyn GOURVENNEC***
- Fabrice JAU
- 7 Cyril JEUNECHAMP
- 23 Price JOLIBOIS
- ***Jean-Christoph LAMBERTI***
- 13 Reynald PEDROS
- 26 Sebastien PIOCELLE

FORWARDS
- ***11 Hassan AHAMADA***
- Chaouki BEN SAADAH
- 15 Nicolas DIEUZE
- ***19 Florian MAURICE***
- 8 Dan PETERSEN (Den)
- 18 PRINCE DAYE (Lbr)

COACH
Gerard GILI

OUT: Odet (Beauvais); Nalis (Chievo); Deblock (Auxerre); Beneforti (Udinese); Vairelles (Lyon); Leglib; Addo; Popovic (Esperance); Deguerville; Manso (Racing, Arg); Berenguer (Istres, loan return)

BORDEAUX

GOALKEEPERS
- 16 Ulrich RAME
- 1 Frederic ROUX

DEFENDERS
- 4 Kodjo AFANOU
- 19 Bruno BASTO (Por)
- ***Mathieu BEDA***
- 5 Jerome BONNISSEL
- 2 David JEMMALI
- Patrick LEUGUEUN (Cam)
- 6 Alain ROCHE
- 15 David SOMMEIL

MIDFIELDERS
- Olivier AURIAC
- 7 Eduardo COSTA (Bra)
- ***Cedric FISTON***
- 10 Camel MERIEM
- 23 PAULO MIRANDA (Bra)
- ***17 Nicolas SAHNOUN***
- 8 Alexei SMERTIN (Rus)
- ***Ivan VUKOMANOVIC (Yug)***

FORWARDS
- ***9 CHRISTIAN Correa Dionisio (Bra)***
- ***18 Jean-Claude DARCHEVILLE***
- 21 Christophe DUGARRY
- ***14 Pascal FEINDOUNO***
- 22 Pedro Miguel C. Resende, PAULETA (Por)
- 28 Christophe SANCHEZ

COACH
Elie BAUP

OUT: Alicarte (Ajaccio); Dhorasoo (Lyon); Faget (Chateauroux); Kossonogov (Creteil); Langlet (Laval); Osmanovski (Torino); Bugnet (Chateauroux)

GUINGAMP

GOALKEEPERS
- ***26 Guillaume GAUCLIN***
- ***1 Ronan LE CROM***

DEFENDERS
- ***19 Lionel BAH***
- ***2 Nestor FABBRI (Arg)***
- 20 Romain FERRIER
- 23 Auriol GUILLAUME
- 18 Jonathan JOSEPH-AUGUSTIN
- 26 Steve JOSEPH-REINETTE
- 17 Blaise KOUASSI (IvC)
- ***3 Jean-Louis MONTERO***
- 5 Milovan SIKIMIC (Yug)
- ***22 Allaedine YAHIA (Mor)***

MIDFIELDERS
- 8 Yannick BARET
- 25 Stephane CARNOT
- 13 Fabrice COLLEAU
- ***12 Gael DANIC***
- 14 Laurent HERVE
- 24 Jean-Baptiste LE BESCOND
- ***4 Christophe LE ROUX***
- 7 Florent MALOUDA
- 6 Claude MICHEL
- 21 Hakim SACI
- ***10 Farid TALHAOUI***

FORWARDS
- 9 Cedric BARDON
- 15 Kemal BOUHRANI
- 11 Didier DROGBA (IvC)
- ***27 Jawed EL-HAIRI***

COACH
Bertrand MARCHAND

OUT: Bourdeau (Clermont); Tasfaout (Qatar); Guyot (Nantes coaching staff); Pancrare (Le Mans); Fiorese (PSG); Fournier (Rouen); Gnanhouan (Sochaux)

LE HAVRE

GOALKEEPERS
- Olivier BLONDEL
- 16 Nicolas DOUCHEZ
- 1 Alexander VENCEL (Slk)

DEFENDERS
- Pascal CHIMBONDA
- 3 Laurent CIECHELSKI
- 21 Souleymane DIAWARA (Sen)
- 12 Jean-Jacques EBENTSI (Cam)
- Jeremy HENIN
- Thomas LECOSSAIS
- 20 Cyril N'DIBA
- ***17 Gregory PAISLEY***

MIDFIELDERS
- Jamel AIT BEN-IDIR
- 27 Guillaume BEUZELIN
- 11 Fadel BRAHIMI
- ***Aliou DIARRA***
- ***15 Pierre DUCROQ***
- 17 Yazid MANSOURI
- David MARTOT

FORWARDS
- ***14 Olivier FAUCONNIER***
- 7 Anthony LE TALLEC
- Jean-Michel LESAGE
- 19 William MOCQUET
- 9 Florent SINAMA-PONGOLLE

COACH
Jean-Francois DOMERGUE

OUT: Deniaud (Clermont); Correa (Beauvais); De Need (Ales); Caveglia (released); Guyot (Louhans-Cuiseaux)

LENS

GOALKEEPERS
- 16 Sebastien CHABBERT
- 30 Charles ITANDJE
- 1 Guillaume WARMUZ

DEFENDERS
- ***6 Jacek BAK (Pol)***
- 20 Zoumana CAMARA
- 14 Ferdinand COLY (Sen)
- 4 Adama COULIBALY (Mli)
- 24 Rod FANNI
- 27 Daouda JABI (Gui)
- 17 Yoann LACHOR
- ***26 Cyril ROOL***
- 2 Eric SIKORA
- ***3 Rigobert SONG (Cam)***

MIDFIELDERS
- 5 Jocelyn BLANCHARD
- 29 Charles-Edouard CORIDON
- 19 Pape Bouba DIOP (Sen)
- ***23 Abdoulaye FAYE***
- 22 Yazid KAISSI
- ***8 Seydou KEITA (Mli)***
- ***25 Adelmajid OULMERS (Mor)***
- 11 Stephane PEDRON
- 15 Pape SARR (Sen)
- 7 Antoine SIBIERSKI

FORWARDS
- ***28 Dagui BAKARI***
- 29 Ludovic DELPORTE
- 10 Daniel MOREIRA
- ***18 Olivier THOMERT***
- ***21 John UTAKA (Nig)***

COACH
Joel MULLER

OUT: Queudrue (Middlesbrough); Diouf (Liverpool); Ismael (Olympiakos); Bejbl (Slavia Prague); Wallemme (Racing Club Paris, coach); Bucher (Wasquehal); Debeve (Amiens); Delplanche (Cherbourg); Rodriguez (Ajaccio); Grodzic (Rad Belgrade); Belhadj (Gueugnon)

LILLE

GOALKEEPERS
- ***16 Gregory MALICKI***
- 30 Laurent PICHON
- 1 Gregory WIMBEE

DEFENDERS
- ***3 Marius BACIU (Rom)***
- ***21 Mathieu CHALME***
- 23 Mathieu DELPIERRE
- 4 Abdelilah FAHMI (Mor)
- 17 Riad HAMMADOU (Alg)
- 18 Stephane PICHOT
- 5 Rafael SCHMITZ (Bra)
- 2 Jose SAEZ
- 20 Gregory TAFFOREAU

MIDFIELDERS
- ***8 Nicolas BONNAL***
- 10 Philippe BRUNEL
- ***6 Gregory CAMPI***
- 22 Benoit CHEYROU
- 27 Fernando D'AMICO (Arg)
- 24 Christophe LANDRIN
- 17 Jean MAKOUN (Cam)
- 13 Matt MOUSSILOU
- 25 Sylvain N'DIAYE (Sen)

FORWARDS
- 9 Mikkel BECK (Den)
- 15 Djezon BOUTOILLE
- ***12 Marc-Antoine FORTUNE***
- ***7 Vladimir MANCHEV (Bul)***
- ***26 Mathieu MATON***
- 19 Mile STERJOVSKI (Aus)
- ***11 Hector TAPIA (Chl)***

COACH
Claude PUEL

OUT: Bruno Cheyrou (Liverpool); Michalowski (Montpellier); Ecker (Marseille); Allibert (Valence); Bakari (Lens); Pignol (Andrezieux); Dernis (Wasquehal); Cygan (Arsenal); Olufade (Nice); Murati (Iraklis); Bassir

LYON

GOALKEEPERS
- 1 Gregory COUPET
- 30 Nicolas PUYDEBOIS
- ***25 Remi VERCOUTRE***

DEFENDERS
- 13 Jeremie BRECHET
- 19 Jean-Marc CHANELET
- 5 CLAUDIO CACAPA (Bra)
- 2 Eric DEFLANDRE (Blg)
- 3 EDMILSON Jose Gomes Moraes (Bra)
- ***29 Yohan GOMEZ***
- 4 Florent LAVILLE
- 28 Laurent MONTOYA

MIDFIELDERS
- 23 Florent BALMONT
- 10 Eric CARRIERE
- 15 Christophe DELMOTTE
- ***24 Vikash DHORASOO***
- ***7 Mahamadou DIARRA (Mli)***
- 8 JUNINHO Pernambucano (Bra)
- 20 Patrick MULLER (Swi)
- 6 Philippe VIOLEAU

FORWARDS
- 9 Sonny ANDERSON Da Silva (Bra)
- 14 Sidney GOVOU
- ***27 Alexandre HAUW***
- 18 Pegguy LUYINDALA
- 21 Frederic NEE
- ***11 Tony VAIRELLES***

COACH
Paul LE GUEN

OUT: Braizat (Toulouse); Bak (Lens); Laigle, Blanc (both Montpellier); Foe (Manchester City); Linares (Troyes)

MARSEILLE

GOALKEEPERS
- 16 Cedric CARASSO
- 1 Vedran RUNJE (Cro)

DEFENDERS
- 3 Manuel DOS SANTOS
- ***21 Johnny ECKER***
- 25 Fabien LAURENTINI
- 18 Frank LEBOEUF
- 12 Abdoulaye MEITE (IvC)
- 8 Sebastien PEREZ
- 5 Eduardo TUZZIO (Arg)
- 4 Daniel VAN BUYTEN (Blg)

MIDFIELDERS
- 19 Djamel BELMADI (Alg)
- ***29 Fabio CELESTINI (Swi)***
- 17 Jose DELFIM (Por)
- 26 Benjamin GAVANON
- 6 Brahim HEMDANI
- 24 Mickael MARSIGLIA
- 20 Salomon OLEMBE (Cam)
- 7 Piotr SWIERCZEWSKI (Pol)

FORWARDS
- 10 Ibrahima BAKAYOKO (IvC)
- 11 Cyril CHAPUIS
- 14 Karim DAHOU
- 9 Lucio FERNANDAO (Bra)
- 13 Lamine SAKHO
- 34 Alen SKORO (Bos)

COACH
Alain PERRIN

OUT: Andre Luiz (PSG); Dalmat (Nantes, end loan); Torrisi (Parma, end loan); Alfonso (Barcelona, end loan); Dimas (Sporting Lisbon, end loan); Montenegro (Huracan), Borios (Martigues); Leroy (PSG); Martini (Lorient); Maurice (Bastia); Yobo (Everton); Abardonado (Nice); Deschamps (Chateauroux); Gregorini (Nice)

MONACO

GOALKEEPERS

16 Andre BIANCARELLI
1 Stephane PORATO
30 Flavio ROMA (Ita)
29 Tony SYLVA (Sen)

DEFENDERS

14 Eric ABIDAL
5 Eric CUBILLIER
3 Patrice EVRA
32 Gael GIVET
23 Bruno IRLES
15 Franck JURIETTI
3 Philippe LEONARD (Blg)
4 Rafael MARQUEZ (Mex)
24 Jose Karl PIERRE-FANFAN
27 Julien RODRIGUEZ
19 Sebastien SQUILLACI

MIDFIELDERS

7 Lucas BERNARDI (Arg)
21 Pontus FARNERUD (Swe)
10 Marcelo GALLARDO (Arg)
8 Ludovic GIULY
Sebastien GRAX
6 Vladimir JUGOVIC (Yug)
35 Jaroslav PLASIL (Cze)
25 Jerome ROTHEN
22 Djibril SIDIBE (Mli)
15 Akis ZIKOS (Gre)

FORWARDS

25 Souleymane CAMARA (Sen)
28 Wagneau ELOI
18 Shabani NONDA (Brd)
9 Dado PRSO (Cro)
11 Marco SIMONE (Ita)

COACH

Didier DESCHAMPS

OUT: Rool (Lens); Panucci (Roma); Mazurier (Istres); Lacombe (Ajaccio); Domoraud (Milan); Bierhoff (released)

MONTPELLIER

GOALKEEPERS

1 Rudy RIOU
16 Jodi VIVIANI

DEFENDERS

3 Serge BLANC
17 Bruno CAROTTI
6 Nenad DZODIC (Yug)
5 Pascal FUGIER
Thierry GATHUESSI (Cam)
12 Cyril RAMOND
15 Michel RODRIGUEZ
4 Franck SILVESTRE
23 Bill TCHATO (Cam)

MIDFIELDERS

14 Cedric BARBOSA
18 Geoffrey DOUMENG
8 Pierre LAIGLE
20 Fabien LEFEVRE
27 Mickael LLORENTE
Valery MEZAGUE
2 Sebastien MICHALOWSKI
21 Guillaume MOULLEC
24 Jean-Christophe ROUVIERE

FORWARDS

26 Habib BAMOGO
9 Victor BONILLA (Col)
29 Marc-Eric GUEI (IvC)
11 Fode MANSARE (Gui)
10 PAULO SERGIO (Por)
Bertrand ROBERT
31 RUI PATACA (Por)

COACH

Michel MEZY

OUT: Vercoutre (Lyon); Belbey, Roberto Assis (both released)

NANTES

GOALKEEPERS

16 Willy GRONDIN
1 Mickael LANDREAU
30 Sebastien PAUVERT

DEFENDERS

22 Sylvain ARMAND
25 Jean-Hugues BILAYI ATEBA (Cam)
4 Mauro CETTO (Arg)
12 Pascal DELHOMMEAU
5 Nicolas GILLET
3 Nicolas LASPALLES
6 Mario YEPES (Col)

MIDFIELDERS

13 Mathieu BERSON
8 Frederic DA ROCHA
7 Wilfried DALMAT
31 Charles DEVINEAU
20 Eric DJEMBA-DJEMBA (Cam)
23 Chiva N'ZIGOU (Gab)
27 Loic PAILLERES
14 Olivier QUINT
26 Goran RUBIL (Cro)
15 Nicolas SAVINAUD
18 Jeremy TOULALAN
29 Stephane ZIANI

FORWARDS

11 Pierre-Yves ANDRE
Ariza MAKUKULA (Por)
9 Viorel MOLDOVAN (Rom)
28 Gregory PUJOL
19 Marama VAHIRUA

COACH

Angel MARCOS (Arg)

OUT: Deroff (Strasbourg); Aristouy (Grenoble); Fabbri (Guingamp); Ahamada (Bastia)

NICE

GOALKEEPERS

24 Damien GREGORINI
1 Jean-Daniel PADOVANI
16 Bruno VALENCONY

DEFENDERS

13 Jacques ABARDONADO
29 Patrick BARUL
21 Kelly BERVILLE
17 Alcaly CAMARA (Sen)
4 Jean-Charles CIRILLY
3 Jose COBOS
8 Noe PAMAROT
Aboulaye SOUMAH (Gui)
2 Cedric VARRAULT

MIDFIELDERS

10 Dominique AULANIER
19 Madjid BEN HADDOU (Alg)
27 Yoann BIGNE
12 Fabio CINETTI (Ita)
5 EVERSON (Bra)
6 Manuel NOGUEIRA
14 Romain PITAU
22 Pablo RODRIGUEZ (Arg)
23 Thibault SCOTTO
20 Janick TAMAZOUT

FORWARDS

18 Serge AYELI (IvC)
7 Abdelmalek CHERRAD
15 Kaba DIAWARA
25 Christophe MESLIN
28 Adekamni OLUFADE (Tog)

COACH

Gernot ROHR (Ger)

OUT: Evra (Monaco); Angan (Sturm Graz); Feindouno, Segretto, Mougeot (all Lens)

PARIS SAINT-GERMAIN

GOALKEEPERS

16 Jerome ALONZO
1 Lionel LETIZI

DEFENDERS

22 CRISTOBAL Parralo (Spa)
6 Frederic DEHU
18 Didier DOMI
12 Talal EL KARKOURI (Mor)
2 Gabriel HEINZE (Arg)
17 Francis LLACER
15 PAULO CESAR Arruda (Bra)
5 Mauricio POCHETTINO (Arg)
3 Lionel POTILLON

MIDFIELDERS

7 ANDRE LUIZ (Bra)
28 Selim BENACHOUR
20 HUGO Miguel Ribeiro LEAL (Por)
4 Jerome LEROY
33 Alex NYARKO (Gha)
24 Samuel PIETRE
27 Romain ROCCHI

FORWARDS

7 Jose ALOISIO Da Silva (Bra)
9 Martin CARDETTI (Arg)
14 Fabrice FIORESE
19 Laurent LEROY
26 Bartholemew OGBECHE
10 Ronaldo de Assis Moreira, RONALDINHO (Bra)
21 Alioune TOURE

COACH

Luis FERNANDEZ

OUT: Luccin (Celta Vigo); A Cisse (Birmingham); Agostinho (Malaga); Distin, Anelka (both Manchester City); Arteta (Rangers); Hiroux (Wasquehal); Okocha (Bolton); Ducrocq (Le Havre); Mendy (Bolton); E Cisse (West Ham)

RENNES

GOALKEEPERS

34 Petr CECH (Cze)
1 Fabien DEBEC
16 Eric DURAND

DEFENDERS

6 Dominique ARRIBAGE
13 Lamine DIATTA (Sen)
17 Julien ESCUDE
Arnaud LE LAN
5 Gabriel LOESCHBOR (Arg)
27 Steven PELE
Sebastien PUYGRENIER
21 Anthony REVEILLERE

MIDFIELDERS

20 Laurent BATLLES
7 Yoann BIGNE
10 Philippe DELAYE
Etienne DIDOT
5 Olivier ECHOUAFNI
3 Andres FLEURQUIN (Uru)
15 Stephane GREGOIRE
Benoit LE BRIS
22 Amadou Makhtar N'DIAYE (Sen)
7 Olivier SORLIN

FORWARDS

12 Mickael CITONY
26 Georgi IVANOV (Bul)
Toifilou MAOULIDA
18 Olivier MONTERRUBIO
9 Frederic PIQUIONNE
11 Mario Hector TURDO (Arg)
25 Cyril YAPI

COACH

Philippe BERGEROO

OUT: Malicki (Lille); Dorothee (Valencia); Gregoire (Ajaccio); Paisley (Le Havre); Bassila (Strasbourg); Gourvennec (Bastia); Primorac (Creteil); Danic, Le Roux (both Guingamp); Lucas (Cruzeiro); Fabiano (Sao Paulo); Bigne (Nice)

SEDAN

GOALKEEPERS

1 Fabrice CATHERINE
30 Thomas LEVAUX
16 Patrick REGNAULT

DEFENDERS

4 Eddy CAPRON
3 Johan CHARPENET
29 David DI TOMMASO
21 Dusko DJURISIC (Yug)
2 David DUCOURTIOUX
18 Cedric ELZEARD
31 Jerome HENROT
24 Hamada JAMBAY
6 Richard JEZIERSKI
5 Pascal PEDEMONTE

MIDFIELDERS

10 Ludovic ASUAR
23 Sophiane BAGDHDAD
6 Frederic BRANDO
9 Modeste MBAMI (Cam)
26 Stephane NORO
15 Patrick VAZ
17 Mathieu ***VERSCHUERE***

FORWARDS

19 Henri CAMARA (Sen)
12 Alain LIRI
20 Cedric MIONNET
7 Moussa N'DIAYE (Sen)
11 Pius N'DIEFI (Cam)
22 Julien POUYES

COACH

Henri STAMBOULI

OUT: Brogno (Westerlo); Gourville (Grenoble): Diao (Liverpool); Oliveira (Saint-Etienne); Becas (Ajaccio); Celdran, Peyrelade (both Le Mans); Leoni (Beauvais); Sachy (retired); Petitjean (Ales); Montero (Guingamp): Fretard (Reims)

SOCHAUX

GOALKEEPERS

16 Jean-Baptiste DAGUET
1 Gerard GNANHOUAN (IvC)
30 Teddy RICHERT

DEFENDERS

27 Omar DAF (Sen)
18 Jean-Jacques DOMORAUD
4 Maxence FLACHEZ
3 Patrick GUILLOU
15 Erwan MANAC'H
William QUEVEDO
19 Philippe RASCHKE
5 Nisa SAVELJIC (Yug)
2 Ibrahim TALL

MIDFIELDERS

8 Fabien BOUDARENE
21 Kamel CHAFNI
7 Adel CHEDLI
11 Stephane CRUCET
12 Mickael ISABEY
6 Johann LONFAT (Swi)
25 Jeremy MATHIEU
10 Wilson ORUMA (Nig)
17 Benoit PEDRETTI
23 Kamal TASSALI
28 Marcelo TRAPASSO (Arg)

FORWARDS

26 Basile DE CARVALHO (Sen)
13 Pierre-Alain FRAU
9 Mickael PAGIS
14 Francileudo Dos SANTOS Lima (Bra)
29 Jaouad ZAIRI (Mor)

COACH

Guy LACOMBE

OUT: Villechalanne (Rouen); Fernandez (Strasbourg)

STRASBOURG

GOALKEEPERS

1 Jose Luis CHILAVERT (Par)
Christophe EGGIMANN
Vincent FERNANDEZ

DEFENDERS

5 Teddy BERTIN
23 Habib BEYE (Sen)
3 Jean-Christophe DEVAUX
Vaclav DROBNY (Cze)
24 Yannick FISCHER
27 Jacques MOHMA (Cam)
Alexis NGAMBI (Cam)
2 Pierre NJANKA (Cam)

MIDFIELDERS

Yacine ABDESSADKI
4 Christian BASSILA
Pascal CAMADINI
Yves DEROFF
22 Fabrice EHRET
18 Pascal JOHANSEN
David KOBYLIK (Cze)
25 Guillaume LACOUR
10 Corentin MARTINS
Rafik MEZRICHE (Tun)
21 Stephane RODA

FORWARDS

9 Mamadou BAGAYOKO (IvC)
11 Yannick KAMANAN
Pierre LAURENT
28 Danijel LJUBOJA (Yug)
32 Cedric MOUKOURI
Cedric STOLL

COACH

Ivan HASEK (Cze)

OUT: Debes (Grenoble); Remy (Istres); Kante (Valence); Nuno Mendes, Belloso

TROYES

GOALKEEPERS

16 Stephane CASSARD
30 Eddy HEURLIE
1 Tony HEURTEBIS

DEFENDERS

24 Sekou BERTHE (Mli)
21 Mohamed BRADJA
5 Frederic DANJOU
26 Samba DIAWARA (Mli)
23 David HAMED
2 Badile LUBAMBA (Swi)
4 Mehdi MENIRI
12 Gael SANZ
3 David VAIRELLES

MIDFIELDERS

14 Frederic ADAM
7 Gharib AMZINE (Mor)
10 Nick CARLE (Aus)
5 Medhi LEROY
29 David LINARES
9 Benjamin NIVET
18 Rafik SAIFI (Tun)
6 Carl TOURENNE
22 Yannick ZAMBERNARDI
17 Karim ZIANI

FORWARDS

20 Nassim AKROUR (Tun)
19 Ibrahima BANGOURA (Gui)
27 Nicolas FLORENTIN
15 Farid GHAZI (Alg)
13 Nicolas GOUSSE
11 Mamadou NIANG (Sen)
25 Marlin PIANA (Con)

COACH

Jacky BONNEVAY

OUT: Sekli (Ajaccio); Svensson (Southampton); Jbari (released); Celestini (Marseille); Loko (Lorient)

THE NEW SEASON IN EUROPE

FRANCE FIXTURES

FRI, AUGUST 2, 2002
Guingamp v Lyon

SAT, AUGUST 3
Bastia v Lens
Lille v Bordeaux
Marseille v Nantes
Montpellier v Rennes
Nice v Le Havre
PSG v Auxerre
Sedan v Sochaux
Strasbourg v Ajaccio
Troyes v Monaco

THU, AUGUST 8
Auxerre v Montpellier

FRI, AUGUST 9
Bordeaux v PSG

SAT, AUGUST 10
Ajaccio v Guingamp
Le Havre v Lille
Lens v Sochaux
Lyon v Sedan
Monaco v Marseille
Nantes v Bastia
Nice v Strasbourg
Rennes v Troyes

FRI, AUGUST 16
Marseille v Lyon

SAT, AUGUST 17
Bastia v Monaco
Guingamp v Rennes
Lille v Nice
Montpellier v Bordeaux
PSG v Ajaccio
Sedan v Lens
Sochaux v Nantes
Strasbourg v Le Havre
Troyes v Auxerre

SAT, AUGUST 24
Ajaccio v Sedan
Auxerre v Guingamp
Bordeaux v Strasbourg
Lille v Troyes
Lyon v Bastia
Monaco v Sochaux
Nantes v Lens
Nice v Montpellier
Rennes v Marseille

SUN, AUGUST 25
Le Havre v PSG

SAT, AUGUST 31
Bastia v Rennes
Guingamp v Bordeaux
Lens v Monaco
Marseille v Auxerre
Montpellier v Le Havre
PSG v Nice
Sedan v Nantes
Sochaux v Lyon
Strasbourg v Lille
Troyes v Ajaccio

WED, SEPTEMBER 11
Ajaccio v Montpellier
Auxerre v Bastia
Bordeaux v Troyes
Le Havre v Guingamp
Lille v PSG
Lyon v Lens
Monaco v Nantes
Nice v Marseille
Rennes v Sochaux
Strasbourg v Sedan

SAT, SEPTEMBER 14
Bastia v Ajaccio
Guingamp v Nice
Lens v Rennes
Marseille v Bordeaux
Montpellier v Lille
Nantes v Lyon
PSG v Strasbourg
Sedan v Monaco
Sochaux v Auxerre
Troyes v Le Havre

SAT, SEPTEMBER 21
Ajaccio v Sochaux
Auxerre v Sedan
Bordeaux v Lens
Le Havre v Marseille
Lille v Guingamp
Lyon v Monaco
Nice v Troyes
PSG v Bastia
Rennes v Nantes
Strasbourg v Montpellier

SAT, SEPTEMBER 28
Bastia v Bordeaux
Guingamp v Strasbourg
Lens v Lille
Marseille v Ajaccio
Monaco v Rennes
Montpellier v PSG
Nantes v Auxerre
Sedan v Le Havre
Sochaux v Nice
Troyes v Lyon

SAT, OCTOBER 5
Ajaccio v Nantes
Auxerre v Monaco
Bordeaux v Sedan
Le Havre v Sochaux
Lille v Marseille
Montpellier v Lens
Nice v Bastia
PSG v Guingamp
Rennes v Lyon
Strasbourg v Troyes

SAT, OCTOBER 19
Bastia v Le Havre
Guingamp v Montpellier
Lens v Ajaccio
Lyon v Auxerre
Marseille v Strasbourg
Monaco v Lille
Nantes v Nice
Sedan v Rennes
Sochaux v Bordeaux
Troyes v PSG

SAT, OCTOBER 26
Ajaccio v Lyon
Auxerre v Rennes
Bordeaux v Monaco
Guingamp v Sedan
Le Havre v Nantes
Lille v Sochaux
Montpellier v Troyes
Nice v Lens
PSG v Marseille
Strasbourg v Bastia

SAT, NOVEMBER 2
Bastia v Lille
Lens v Auxerre
Lyon v Nice
Marseille v Montpellier
Monaco v Le Havre
Nantes v Bordeaux
Rennes v Ajaccio
Sedan v PSG
Sochaux v Strasbourg
Troyes v Guingamp

SAT, NOVEMBER 9
Ajaccio v Auxerre
Bordeaux v Rennes
Guingamp v Marseille
Le Havre v Lyon
Lille v Nantes
Montpellier v Sedan
Nice v Monaco
PSG v Sochaux
Strasbourg v Lens
Troyes v Bastia

SAT, NOVEMBER 16
Auxerre v Nice
Bastia v Guingamp
Lens v PSG
Lyon v Bordeaux
Marseille v Troyes
Monaco v Ajaccio
Nantes v Strasbourg
Rennes v Le Havre
Sedan v Lille
Sochaux v Montpellier

SAT, NOVEMBER 23
Bordeaux v Ajaccio
Guingamp v Sochaux
Le Havre v Auxerre
Lille v Lyon
Marseille v Lens
Montpellier v Bastia
Nice v Rennes
PSG v Nantes
Strasbourg v Monaco
Troyes v Sedan

SAT, NOVEMBER 30
Ajaccio v Le Havre
Auxerre v Bordeaux
Bastia v Marseille
Lens v Guingamp
Lyon v Strasbourg
Monaco v PSG
Nantes v Montpellier
Rennes v Lille
Sedan v Nice
Sochaux v Troyes

WED, DECEMBER 4
Bastia v Sedan
Guingamp v Nantes
Le Havre v Bordeaux
Lille v Auxerre
Marseille v Sochaux
Montpellier v Monaco
Nice v Ajaccio
PSG v Lyon
Strasbourg v Rennes
Troyes v Lens

SAT, DECEMBER 14
Ajaccio v Lille
Auxerre v Strasbourg
Bordeaux v Nice
Lens v Le Havre
Lyon v Montpellier
Monaco v Guingamp
Nantes v Troyes
Rennes v PSG
Sedan v Marseille
Sochaux v Bastia

WED, DECEMBER 18
Bastia v Nantes
Guingamp v Ajaccio
Lille v Le Havre
Marseille v Monaco
Montpellier v Auxerre
PSG v Bordeaux
Sedan v Lyon
Sochaux v Lens
Strasbourg v Nice
Troyes v Rennes

SAT, DECEMBER 21
Ajaccio v PSG
Auxerre v Troyes
Bordeaux v Montpellier
Le Havre v Strasbourg
Lens v Sedan
Lyon v Marseille
Monaco v Bastia
Nantes v Sochaux
Nice v Lille
Rennes v Guingamp

SAT, JANUARY 11, 2003
Bastia v Lyon
Guingamp v Auxerre
Lens v Nantes
Marseille v Rennes
Montpellier v Nice
PSG v Le Havre
Sedan v Ajaccio
Sochaux v Monaco
Strasbourg v Bordeaux
Troyes v Lille

WED, JANUARY 15
Ajaccio v Troyes
Auxerre v Marseille
Bordeaux v Guingamp
Le Havre v Montpellier
Lille v Strasbourg
Lyon v Sochaux
Monaco v Lens
Nantes v Sedan
Nice v PSG
Rennes v Bastia

SAT, JANUARY 18
Bastia v Auxerre
Guingamp v Le Havre
Lens v Lyon
Marseille v Nice
Montpellier v Ajaccio
Nantes v Monaco
PSG v Lille
Sedan v Strasbourg
Sochaux v Rennes
Troyes v Bordeaux

WED, JANUARY 29
Ajaccio v Bastia
Auxerre v Sochaux
Bordeaux v Marseille
Le Havre v Troyes
Lille v Montpellier
Lyon v Nantes
Monaco v Sedan
Nice v Guingamp
Rennes v Lens
Strasbourg v PSG

WED, FEBRUARY 5
Bastia v PSG
Guingamp v Lille
Lens v Bordeaux
Marseille v Le Havre
Monaco v Lyon
Montpellier v Strasbourg
Nantes v Rennes
Sedan v Auxerre
Sochaux v Ajaccio
Troyes v Nice

SAT, FEBRUARY 8
Ajaccio v Marseille
Auxerre v Nantes
Bordeaux v Bastia
Le Havre v Sedan
Lille v Lens
Lyon v Troyes
Nice v Sochaux
PSG v Montpellier
Rennes v Monaco
Strasbourg v Guingamp

SAT, FEBRUARY 22
Bastia v Nice
Guingamp v PSG
Lens v Montpellier
Lyon v Rennes
Marseille v Lille
Monaco v Auxerre
Nantes v Ajaccio
Sedan v Bordeaux
Sochaux v Le Havre
Troyes v Strasbourg

SAT, MARCH 1
Ajaccio v Lens
Auxerre v Lyon
Bordeaux v Sochaux
Le Havre v Bastia
Lille v Monaco
Montpellier v Guingamp
Nice v Nantes
PSG v Troyes
Rennes v Sedan
Strasbourg v Marseille

SAT, MARCH 8
Bastia v Strasbourg
Lens v Nice
Lyon v Ajaccio
Marseille v PSG
Monaco v Bordeaux
Nantes v Le Havre
Rennes v Auxerre
Sedan v Guingamp
Sochaux v Lille
Troyes v Montpellier

SAT, MARCH 22
Ajaccio v Rennes
Auxerre v Lens
Bordeaux v Nantes
Guingamp v Troyes
Le Havre v Monaco
Lille v Bastia
Montpellier v Marseille
Nice v Lyon
PSG v Sedan
Strasbourg v Sochaux

SAT, APRIL 5
Auxerre v Ajaccio
Bastia v Troyes
Lens v Strasbourg
Lyon v Le Havre
Marseille v Guingamp
Monaco v Nice
Nantes v Lille
Rennes v Bordeaux
Sedan v Montpellier
Sochaux v PSG

SAT, APRIL 12
Ajaccio v Monaco
Bordeaux v Lyon
Guingamp v Bastia
Le Havre v Rennes
Lille v Sedan
Montpellier v Sochaux
Nice v Auxerre
PSG v Lens
Strasbourg v Nantes
Troyes v Marseille

SAT, APRIL 19
Ajaccio v Bordeaux
Auxerre v Le Havre
Bastia v Montpellier
Lens v Marseille
Lyon v Lille
Monaco v Strasbourg
Nantes v PSG
Rennes v Nice
Sedan v Troyes
Sochaux v Guingamp

SAT, MAY 3
Bordeaux v Auxerre
Guingamp v Lens
Le Havre v Ajaccio
Lille v Rennes
Marseille v Bastia
Montpellier v Nantes
Nice v Sedan
PSG v Monaco
Strasbourg v Lyon
Troyes v Sochaux

SAT, MAY 10
Ajaccio v Nice
Auxerre v Lille
Bordeaux v Le Havre
Lens v Troyes
Lyon v PSG
Monaco v Montpellier
Nantes v Guingamp
Rennes v Strasbourg
Sedan v Bastia
Sochaux v Marseille

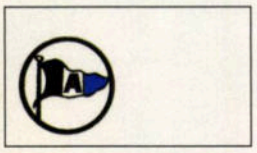
SAT, MAY 24
Bastia v Sochaux
Guingamp v Monaco
Le Havre v Lens
Lille v Ajaccio
Marseille v Sedan
Montpellier v Lyon
Nice v Bordeaux
PSG v Rennes
Strasbourg v Auxerre
Troyes v Nantes

WED, JUNE 4
Ajaccio v Strasbourg
Auxerre v PSG
Bordeaux v Lille
Le Havre v Nice
Lens v Bastia
Lyon v Guingamp
Monaco v Troyes
Nantes v Marseille
Rennes v Montpellier
Sochaux v Sedan

Room for improvement...last season's runners-up Lens aim to go one better

Bayern, Bayer or Borussia?

Nick Bidwell runs the rule over the Bundesliga contenders



Arminia Bielefeld

Back in the Bundesliga after two years in the Second Division, Arminia have not enjoyed the best of pre-seasons. Coach Benno Mohlmann was dismayed to see many of his first team squad return from their holidays badly out of shape and was even more annoyed when star midfielder Ansgar Brinkmann went AWOL from training camp. Bielefeld are renowned for scoring lots of goals from set-pieces, but a rather static defence and lack of creativity in midfield suggest a long struggle.

Bayer Leverkusen

These eternal Bundesliga runners-up – four second places in the past six years – will find it tough to break their duck now that goalscoring midfielder Michael Ballack and Brazilian left-wing provider Ze Roberto have been lured away to Bayern. However, all is far from lost. Right-sided midfielder Bernd Schneider and Brazilian defender Lucio did not move on, while a number of top-drawer recruits have come in. Young Daniel Bierofka (1860 Munich) has the pace and dribbling ability to take over the Ze Roberto mantle; Hanno Balitsch (Koln) is a midfield terrier in the Jens Jeremies mould; Czech playmaker Jan Simak (Hannover) was the Second Division Player of the Year, while Leverkusen again took advantage of their Brazilian connections to bring in central defender Juan (Flamengo) and forward Franca (Sao Paulo). Juan should be the perfect replacement for skipper Jens Nowotny, who will be out until the end of the year after a knee ligament operation. A lot of rebuilding for coach Klaus Toppmoller, but he has the tactical acumen and motivational skills to handle the job.

Bayern Munich

With the Bavarians failing to collect a trophy for the first time since 1995, changes in personnel were inevitable. The highest-profile casualty was skipper and midfield general Stefan Effenberg – whose contract was not renewed and still has not found a new club – while others to find themselves pushed towards the exit were Brazilian winger Paulo Sergio (now in Dubai with Al Wahda) and Germany striker Carsten Jancker, who joined Udinese. Meanwhile, general manager Uli Hoeness succeeded in signing all the big names on coach Ottmar Hitzfeld's wish-list. Coming in are Leverkusen star midfielders Michael Ballack (£4million) and Ze Roberto (£6.3m), and Hertha Berlin schemer Sebastian Deisler (£6.1m), who, unfortunately, will be out until the New Year after fracturing a knee cap in a World Cup warm-up game. Deisler's absence makes it even more crucial that playmaker Mehmet Scholl stays fit. He provides a large proportion of Bayern's attacking improvisation, and the fact that he missed much of last season with a variety of physical problems was a crucial factor in their under-achieving season. Ominously, there are already splits in the camp. Hitzfeld is adamant he will stick by his policy of constantly rotating his first-team personnel; club president Franz Beckenbauer wants a more settled line-up.

Bochum

Coach Peter Neururer has set his newly promoted side a top-10 target, but history says he may be over-optimistic. New boys include Cameroon central defender Raymond Kalla (from Extremadura), versatile Icelandic midfielder Thordur Gudjonsson (Las Palmas) – back for a second stint at Bochum – and Croat left-back Filip Tapalovic (1860 Munich). Bochum's strength is counter-attack, and much will depend on veteran playmaker Darius Wosz and front men Paul Freier, naturalised Spaniard Thomas Christiansen and Delron Buckley of South Africa.

Borussia Dortmund

While it is never easy to defend a League title, the *Dortmunder* appear to be sufficiently equipped to do so. No-nonsense coach Matthias Sammer, at 34 the youngest Bundesliga-winning boss, is just the man to keep his players' feet on the ground. He also has two top-class men competing for each position. With long-serving stopper Jurgen Kohler having retired and Christian Worns struggling to recover from a knee operation, some believe Dortmund may not be so secure defensively. But a back line built around young Germany stars Christoph Metzelder and Sebastian Kehl and Argentinian new boy Juan Ramon Fernandez (Estudiantes) should prove otherwise. Key men will be Czech playmaker Tomas Rosicky, Brazilian marksman Marcio Amoroso and World Cup all-rounder Torsten Frings, a £5.6million arrival from Werder Bremen.

Rising star...Metzelder

Borussia Monchengladbach

Good work in the transfer market this summer should help Gladbach improve on their 12th-place finish last term. Exciting young left-winger Marcel Ketelaer is back for a second spell following an injury-plagued time at Hamburg; former Anderlecht man Joris Van Hout can play absolutely anywhere, while Luxembourg international Jeff Strasser (Kaiserslautern) is a fine defensive midfielder.

Energie Cottbus

Cottbus have surprised many over the past two seasons by steering clear of the Bundesliga drop zone. Coach Eduard Geyer's recipe for survival will remain the same this term – lots of hard running, discipline and as many good-value new signings from Eastern Europe as he can muster. This year's batch features Polish striker Andrzej Juskowiak (Wolfsburg), Czech midfielder Robert Vagner (Ujpest Dosza) and Hungarian defender Zsolt Low (also Ujpest).

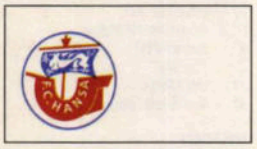
Hamburg

It has been a turbulent close season at HSV, with boardroom rows, the sacking of general manager Holger Hieronymus, and coach Kurt Jara making it clear he did not want Oliver Bierhoff as the new chief executive. Hamburg's hopes of qualifying for Europe have undoubtedly been boosted by the signing of outstanding left-sided midfielder Christian Rahn (St Pauli), Austrian libero Michael Baur (FC Tirol) and his compatriot, midfielder Richard Kitzbichler (Salzburg). But there may be a problem with another recent acquisition, Argentinian

defensive midfielder Cristian Ledesma, from River Plate. Jara is said to not want him.

Hannover 96

After running away with the Second Division last season and ending a 13-year Bundesliga exile, the city remains in a state of football euphoria and the club confidently expect 40,000 fans to fill the Niedersdachsenstadion. Under coach Ralf Rangnick, risk-taking attacking football is the order of the day, but it remains to be seen how Hannover will cope without the creative and goalscoring impulse of attacking midfielder Jan Simak, sold to Leverkusen. His replacement is fellow Czech Jiri Stajner, from Slovan Liberec.



Hansa Rostock

Though the east German club have flirted with relegation for the past four years, there is reason to believe that the new campaign will not be nearly so taxing on their nerves. Coach Armin Veh is one of the most promising young bosses in the land, and he has a clutch of good summer signings – central defender Jochen Kientz and midfielder Thomas Meggle from St Pauli, right-back Gerd Wimmer (Eintracht Frankfurt) and Swedish striker Rade Prica (Helsingborgs), Hansa's record buy at £1.45m.

Hertha Berlin

Hertha will be more organised and consistent under new Dutch coach Huub Stevens (ex-Schalke). But talk of them winning their first Bundesliga title is premature. They have a surfeit of Brazilian attacking talent in Marcelinho, Alex Alves and Luizao – a new signing from Gremio – but there are worrying deficiencies in other areas. Recent Polish acquisition Bartosz Karwan will have to improve considerably if he is to adequately replace Bayern-bound Sebastian Deisler, Hungarian keeper Gabor Kiraly is a touch too eccentric for comfort, and the back line has been decimated by injuries to Marko Rehmer, Denis Lapaczinski and Dick Van Burik. But Hertha were boosted by winning the pre-season League Cup, beating Bayern Munich, Borussia Dortmund and then Schalke in the Final.

Kaiserslautern

How not to prepare for a new season. Cliques have formed in the dressing-room, players are queuing up to snipe at coach Andy Brehme and, not surprisingly in this rancid atmosphere, pre-season results have proved disastrous – notably a 6-2 loss to Fenerbahce and defeat by Czechs Teplice in the InterToto Cup first round. On paper, Kaiserslautern should be a top-six club, with brilliant young strikers Miroslav Klose and Christian Timm – a new signing from Koln – an abundance of midfield inspiration in the shape of Mario Basler and Brazilian Lincoln, and class defenders such as Slovenia's Alex Knavs and Congo-born Nzelo Lembi, a naturalised Belgian signed from Club Brugge. But the petty jealousies and score-settling makes Europe look a forlorn hope. "Too many players here are cowards," hit out Basler recently. Welcome to the bear pit.

1860 Munich

1860's priority this summer was to shore up a defence that leaked 59 goals last term. New centre-backs Brazilian Rodrigo Costa (ex-Gremio) and Swiss Under-21 Remo Meyer (Lausanne) will provide the aggression and pace that was previously lacking. Up front, Martin Max is a proven scorer, but serious questions remain about the sort of service he will receive following the departure of Daniel Bierofka to Leverkusen.

Nurnberg

A strong defence featuring American World Cup star Tony Sanneh as a rampaging right-back should keep them out of the relegation mire. But midfield could be a problem area, with young Czech David Jarolim going off the boil last season and their most creative influence, Pole Jacek Krzynowek, sidelined for at least six months (knee ligaments). But fans' favourite Sasa Ciric of Macedonia is back to lead the line.

Schalke

The German Cup winners took a risk when they appointed Frank Neubarth to replace Huub Stevens as coach. Neubarth, 39, was formerly in charge of Werder's amateurs and has never worked with Bundesliga professionals before. He could certainly have done without an injury crisis. Marc Wilmots, Nico Van Kerckhoven, Marco Van Hoogdalem and Emile Mpenza all miss the start of the season. New signings Frank Rost (ex-Werder keeper) and Danish defensive midfielder Christian Poulsen (FC Copenhagen) will play a pivotal part, as will midfield general Andy Moller, in his 17th year as a professional.

Stuttgart

The club's financial problems are so bad that they made no major additions to their squad and told players not to make a habit of swapping shirts with the opposition. Just as well, then, that Stuttgart have some of the best youngsters in the country in keeper Timo Hildebrand, full-backs Timo Wenzel and Andreas Hinkel, midfielders Jochen Seitz and Alexander Hleb, and forward Christian Tiffert.

Schalke general...Moller

Werder Bremen

No wonder coach Thomas Schaaf admits qualification for Europe will be difficult to achieve. Werder's four best players – Andy Herzog, Torsten Frings, Marco Bode and keeper Frank Rost – have moved on in the past few months, with no cash for replacements. Nor is luck on their side. New signing Manuel Friedrich snapped knee ligaments in a friendly and will be out for nine months. One item of good news is the rapid integration of Greek striker Angelos Haristeas following his move from Aris Salonika.

Wolfsburg

A team of two faces. There's an abundance of attacking-third talent in Roy Prager (back for a second spell), Diego Klimowicz, Tomislav Maric, Robson Ponte and Martin Petrov. But despite the arrival in the close season of Danish centre-back Kim Madsen from FC Copenhagen, Wolfsburg are not nearly so impressive at the back. They have a five-year plan to reach the Champions League, but it may take a little longer.

THE NEW SEASON IN EUROPE

GERMANY SQUADS

ARMINIA BIELEFELD

GOALKEEPERS
23 Dennis EILHOFF
1 Mathias HAIN
26 Heinz MULLER

DEFENDERS
27 Martin AMEDICK
15 Daniel BOGUSZ (Pol)
3 Marcio BORGES (Bra)
16 Benjamin LENSE
8 Maciej MURAWSKI (Pol)
4 Bastian REINHARDT

MIDFIELDERS
22 Erhan ALBAYRAK
30 Ansgar BRINKMANN
5 Christoph DABROWSKI
6 Detlev DAMMEIER
28 Dirk FLOCK
25 Sasa JANIC
12 Rudiger KAUF
21 Massimiliano PORCELLO
17 Bernd Gerd RAUW (Blg)
33 Mirnel SADOVIC (Bos)
11 Jesus Brahaman SINISTERRA (Col)
13 Michael STERNKOPF
10 Fatmir VATA (Alb)

FORWARDS
14 Ilija ARACIC (Cro)
9 Rade BOGDANOVIC (Yug)
19 Mamadou-Lamine DIABANG (Sen)
20 Dirk VAN DER VEN (Hol)
18 Artur WICHNIAREK (Pol)

COACH
Benno MOHLMANN

OUT: Friedrich (Hertha); Bode, Hofschneider, Miletic (all Augsburg); Wuck (retired); Klitzpera, Schaper, Partyka (all released); Rump (amateurs)

BAYER LEVERKUSEN

GOALKEEPERS
1 Hans-Jorg BUTT
20 Frank JURIC (Aus)
31 Tom STARKE

DEFENDERS
46 Mile BOZIC (Cro)
4 JUAN Silveira dos Santos (Bra)
47 Thomas KLEINE
19 Lucimar da Silva Ferreira, LUCIO (Bra)
5 Jens NOWOTNY
35 Diego PLACENTE (Arg)
24 Emanuel POGATETZ (Aut)
6 Boris ZIVKOVIC (Cro)

MIDFIELDERS
19 Marko BABIC (Cro)
14 Hanno BALITSCH
10 Yildiray BASTURK (Tur)
13 Daniel BIEROFKA
33 Anel DZAKA
51 Nasir EL KASMI
18 Frankie HEJDUK (USA)
17 Pascal OJIGWE (Nig)
2 Christoph PREUSS
28 Carsten RAMELOW
25 Bernd SCHNEIDER
26 Zoltan SEBESCEN
8 Jan SIMAK (Cze)
15 Jurica VRANJES (Cro)

FORWARDS
12 Dimitar BERBATOV (Bul)
23 Thomas BRDARIC
34 Huzeyfe DOGAN
11 Francoaldo Sena de Souza, FRANCA (Bra)
9 Ulf KIRSTEN
16 Ioannis MASMANIDIS
27 Oliver NEUVILLE

COACH
Klaus TOPPMOLLER

OUT: Ballack, Ze Roberto (both Bayern); Daun (Werder Bremen); Zepek (Ahlen, loan); Wittek (Eleversberg)

BAYERN MUNICH

GOALKEEPERS
22 Bernd DREHER
1 Oliver KAHN
33 Stefan WESSELS

DEFENDERS
5 Robert KOVAC (Cro)
4 Samuel Osei KUFFOUR (Gha)
25 Thomas LINKE
3 Bixente LIZARAZU (Fra)
2 Willy SAGNOL (Fra)

MIDFIELDERS
13 Michael BALLACK
26 Sebastian DEISLER
32 Markus FEULNER
17 Thorsten FINK
23 Owen HARGREAVES (Eng)
16 Jens JEREMIES
8 Niko KOVAC (Cro)
20 Hasan SALIHAMIDZIC (Bos)
7 Mehmet SCHOLL
18 Michael TARNAT
6 Pablo THIAM (Gui)
11 ZE ROBERTO (Bra)

FORWARDS
9 Giovane ELBER (Bra)
14 Claudio PIZARRO (Per)
24 Roque SANTA CRUZ (Par)
21 Alexander ZICKLER

COACH
Ottmar HITZFELD

OUT: Paulo Sergio (Al Wahda, UAE); Effenberg (released); Jancker (Udinese); Sforza

BOCHUM

GOALKEEPERS
1 Rein VAN DUUNHOVEN (Hol)
13 Christian VANDER

DEFENDERS
2 Michael BEMBEN
5 Soren COLDING (Den)
4 Mirko DICKHAUT
15 Frank FAHRENHORST
6 Raymond KALLA (Cam)
3 Martin MEICHELBECK
18 Filip TAPALOVIC (Cro)
12 Anton VRIESDE

MIDFIELDERS
19 Dietmar BERCHTOLD (Aut)
14 Thordur GUDJONSSON (Ice)
17 Bjorn JOPPE
20 Sergei MANDREKO (Rus)
22 Thomas REIS
8 Sebastian SCHINDZIELORZ
10 Dariusz WOSZ

FORWARDS
21 Delron BUCKLEY (SAf)
9 Thomas CHRISTIANSEN (Spa)
7 Paul FREIER
11 Peter GRAULUND (Den)
16 Vahid HASHEMIAN (Irn)

COACH
Peter NEURURER

OUT: Stickroth (retired); Sundermann (Verl); Ristau, Busch, Toplak (all released); Schroder (Duisburg)

BORUSSIA DORTMUND

GOALKEEPERS
20 Philipp LAUX
1 Jens LEHMANN
26 Roman WEIDENFELLER

DEFENDERS
3 Juan Roman FERNANDEZ (Arg)
5 Sebastian KEHL
23 Ahmed Reda MADOUNI (Fra)
21 Christoph METZELDER
7 Stefan REUTER
4 Christian WORNS

MIDFIELDERS
17 Leonardo de Deus Santos, DEDE (Bra)
14 Guy DEMEL (Fra)
2 EVANILSON Aparecido Ferreira (Bra)
8 Torsten FRINGS
6 Jorg HEINRICH
15 Sunday OLISEH (Nig)
18 Lars RICKEN
10 Tomas ROSICKY (Cze)

FORWARDS
19 Otto ADDO (Gha)
22 Marcio AMOROSO (Bra)
16 Fredi BOBIC
12 EWERTHON Henrique de Souza (Bra)
11 Heiko HERRLICH
9 Jan KOLLER (Cze)
31 Emmanuel KRONTIRIS
24 David ODONKOR
13 Giuseppe REINA
29 Jan Derek SORENSEN (Nor)

COACH
Matthias SAMMER

OUT: Kohler (retired); Stevic (released); Kringe (Koln); Bugri (amateurs)

BORUSSIA MONCHENGLADBACH

GOALKEEPERS
33 Otto FREDRIKSON (Fin)
38 Uwe KAMPS
31 Michael MELKA
1 Jorg STIEL (Swi)

DEFENDERS
5 Sladan ASANIN (Cro)
2 Max EBERL
4 Steffen KORELL
17 Quido LANZAAT (Hol)
3 Markus MUNCH
15 Marcelo Jose PLETSCH (Bra)
7 Jeff STRASSER (Lux)
11 Marcel WITECZEK

MIDFIELDERS
16 Berthil ter AVEST (Hol)
30 Jens BAUMER
6 Igor DEMO (Slk)
21 Markus HAUSWEILER
24 Peer KLUGE
22 Benjamin SCHUSSLER
18 Stephane STASSIN (Blg)
8 Ivo ULICH (Cze)
12 Joris VAN HOUT (Blg)

FORWARDS
23 Lawrence AIDOO (Gha)
13 Benjamin AUER
20 Daniel FELGENHAUER
27 Marcel KETELAER
19 Bernd KORZYNIETZ
14 Marco KUNTZEL
10 Peter VAN HOUDT (Blg)
9 Arie VAN LENT

COACH
Hans MEYER

OUT: Nielsen (FC Copenhagen); Maier (Ahlen); Mieciel (Legia Warsaw); Osthoff (Ein. Braunschweig)

ENERGIE COTTBUS

GOALKEEPERS
12 Gunnar BERNTSEN
1 Andre LENZ
23 Tomislav PIPLICA (Bos)

DEFENDERS
3 Christian BEECK
25 Faruk HUJDUROVIC (Bos)
13 Zsolt LOW (Hun)
17 Marcel ROZGONYI
4 Rayk SCHRODER
2 Vilmos SEBOK (Hun)
6 Vragel da SILVA (Bra)

MIDFIELDERS
8 Bruno AKRAPOVIC (Bos)
14 Marco GEBHARDT
20 Radoslaw KALUZNY (Pol)
18 Andrzej KOBYLANSKI (Pol)
16 Moussa LATOUNDJI (Ben)
24 Vasile MIRIUTA (Hun)
7 Laurentin REGHECAMPF (Rom)
11 Timo ROST
30 Silvio SCHROTER
19 Hamid TERMINA (Mor)
33 Ronny THIELEMANN
10 Robert VAGNER (Cze)

FORWARDS
31 BRASILIA (Bra)
5 Markus FELDHOFF
21 FRANKLIN (Bra)
15 Lars JUNGNICKEL
9 Andrzej JUSKOWIAK (Pol)
35 Thomas REICHENBERGER
22 Marko TOPIC (Bos)

COACH
Eduard GEYER

OUT: Helbig (Koln); Wawrzyczek (Karlsruhe); Scherbe (KFC Uerdingen); Matyus, Vincze (both released)

HAMBURG

GOALKEEPERS
28 Thomas HILLENBRAND
1 Martin PIECKENHAGEN
29 Stefan WACHTER
30 Carsten WEHLMANN

DEFENDERS
8 Michael BAUR (Aut)
18 Milan FUKAL (Cze)
4 Ingo HERTZSCH
5 Nico-Jan HOOGMA (Hol)
12 Lars JACOBSEN (Den)
24 Stephan KLING
2 Marcel MALTRITZ
21 Tomas UJFALUSI (Cze)

MIDFIELDERS
10 Jorg ALBERTZ
19 Roda ANTAR (Leb)
16 Collin BENYAMIN (Nam)
27 Rodolfo CARDOSO (Arg)
7 Martin GROTH
20 Bernd HOLLERBACH
17 Richard KITZBICHLER (Aut)
22 Cristian LEDESMA (Arg)
3 Christian RAHN
6 Raphael WICKY (Swi)

FORWARDS
14 Sergej BARBAREZ (Bos)
13 Kim CHRISTENSEN (Den)
23 Marek HEINZ (Cze)
15 Mehdi MAHDAVIKIA (Irn)
11 Erik MEIJER (Hol)
9 Bernardo ROMEO (Arg)

COACH
Kurt JARA (Aut)

OUT: Ketelaer (Monchengladbach); Prager (Wolfsburg); Sandmann (Union Berlin); Yilmaz (released)

HANNOVER 96

GOALKEEPERS
30 Daniel HAAS
26 Timo OCHS
1 Jorg SIEVERS

DEFENDERS
21 Steve CHERUNDOLO (USA)
4 Dame DIOUF (Sen)
31 Guido GORGES
2 Carsten LINKE
5 Kai OSWALD
16 Markus SCHULER
3 Dariusz ZURAW (Pol)
6 Marc VAN HINTUM (Hol)

MIDFIELDERS
22 Julian DE GUZMAN (Can)
17 Nebojsa KRUPNIKOVIC (Yug)
8 Altin LALA (Alb)
35 Bjorn LINDEMANN
15 Thorsten NEHRBAUER
18 Danijel STEFULJ (Cro)

FORWARDS
7 Conor CASEY (USA)
25 Mohammadou IDRISSOU (Cam)
14 Jiri KAUFMAN (Cze)
36 Aleksandar KOTULJAC
11 Babacar N'DIAYE (Sen)
20 Blaise N'KUFO (Swi)
10 Jiri STAINER (Cze)
9 Daniel STENDEL

COACH
Ralf RANGNICK

OUT: Simak (Leverkusen); Backhaus (Union Berlin); Rose, Moranis (both Mainz); Baschetti, Schafer, Bounoua, Keita (all released)

HANSA ROSTOCK

GOALKEEPERS
25 Carsten BUSCH
21 Daniel KLEWER
1 Mathias SCHOBER

DEFENDERS
20 Delano HILL (Hol)
5 Andreas JAKOBSSON (Swe)
8 Jochen KIENTZ
2 Timo LANGE
12 Uwe MOHRLE
23 Gerd WIMMER (Aut)

MIDFIELDERS
4 Godfried ADUOBE (Gha)
22 Kevin HANSEN
18 Dietmar HIRSCH
17 Marcus LANTZ (Swe)
6 Ronald MAUL
10 Thomas MEGGLE
14 Joakim PERSSON (Swe)
7 Rene RYDLEWICZ
38 Peter WIBRAN (Swe)

FORWARDS
15 Magnus ARVIDSSON (Swe)
13 Markus BEIERLE
19 Antonio DI SALVO (Ita)
11 Rade PRICA (Swe)
9 Bachirou SALOU (Tog)
24 Marcel SCHIED

COACH
Armin VEH

OUT: Kovacec (Augsburg); Oswald (Hannover 96); Haber (Omonia Nicosia); Weisshaupt (Lubeck); Emara (Al Ahly); Brautigam, Weilandt (both retired); Schroder (Energie Cottbus); Yasser, Brand, Baumgart, Benken (all released)

HERTHA BERLIN

GOALKEEPERS

12 Christian FIEDLER
1 Gabor KIRALY (Hun)
40 Tomasz KUSZCZAK (Pol)

DEFENDERS

3 Arne FRIEDRICH
2 Denis LAPACZINSKI
33 Marko REHMER
19 Andreas SCHMIDT
14 Josip SIMUNIC (Cro)
6 Eyjolfur SVERRISSON (Ice)
4 Dick VAN BURIK (Hol)

MIDFIELDERS

22 Stefan BEINLICH
18 Pal DARDAI (Hun)
8 Bart GOOR (Blg)
21 Michael HARTMANN
13 Bartosz KARWAN (Pol)
5 Kostas KONSTANTINIDIS (Gre)
25 Rob MAAS (Hol)
32 Thorben MARX
27 Alexander MLADENOV (Bul)
28 Nderim NEDZIPI (Mac)
20 Andreas NEUENDORF
16 Roberto PINTO (Por)
23 Rene TRETSCHOK

FORWARDS

7 ALEX ALVES (Bra)
35 Benjamin KOHLER
24 Trond Fredrik LUDVIGSEN (Nor)
9 LUIZAO (Bra)
10 MARCELINHO (Bra)
11 Michael PREETZ
44 Joel TCHAMI (Cam)
17 Sead ZILIC (Bos)

COACH

Huub STEVENS (Hol)

OUT: Deisler (Bayern); Daei (Al Shabab, UAE); Schroder (Koln)

KAISERSLAUTERN

GOALKEEPERS

1 Georg KOCH
12 Tim WIESE

DEFENDERS

3 Petr GABRIEL (Cze)
5 Thomas HENGEN
20 Tomasz KLOS (Pol)
4 Aleksander KNAVS (Sln)
24 Harry KOCH
2 Herve Nzelo LEMBI (Blg)
6 Hany RAMZY (Egy)
26 Torsten REUTER

MIDFIELDERS

18 Markus ANFANG
30 Mario BASLER
15 Nenad BJELICA (Cro)
32 Jose DOMINGUEZ (Por)
8 Dimitrios GRAMMOZIS (Gre)
7 Marian HRISTOV (Bul)
10 LINCOLN Clessio de Souza Soares (Bra)
28 Stefan MALZ
17 Everson Rodrigues, RATINHO (Bra)
23 Thomas RIEDL

FORWARDS

22 Silvio ADZIC
29 Danko BOSKOVIC (Yug)
11 Miroslav KLOSE
9 Vratislav LOKVENC (Cze)
21 Michael MIFSUD (Mlt)
14 Selim TEBER
22 Christian TIMM

COACH

Andreas BREHME

OUT: Weidenfeller (Dortmund); Strasser (Monchengladbach); Kullig (Lubeck); Buck (Mainz); Djorkaeff (Bolton); Marschall, West, Pettersson (all released)

1860 MUNICH

GOALKEEPERS

1 Michael HOFMANN
29 Simon JENTZSCH

DEFENDERS

7 Rodrigo COSTA (Bra)
24 Uwe EHLERS
15 Holger GREILICH
44 Torben HOFFMANN
4 Marco KURZ
3 Remo MEYER (Swi)
25 Achim PFUDERER
2 Martin STRANZL (Aut)
5 Tomas VOTAVA (Cze)

MIDFIELDERS

17 Daniel BORIMIROV (Bul)
13 Harald CERNY (Aut)
30 Sandro CESCUTTI
23 Andreas GORLITZ
10 Thomas HASSLER
8 Vidar RISETH (Nor)
12 Danny SCHWARZ
6 Roman TYCE (Cze)
20 Markus WEISSENBERGER (Aut)
14 Michael WIESINGER

FORWARDS

18 Paul AGOSTINO (Aus)
11 Benjamin LAUTH
9 Martin MAX
26 Marcus PURK (Aut)
21 Markus SCHROTH
19 Davor SUKER (Cro)

COACH

Peter PACULT (Aut)

OUT: Dheedene (Austria Wien); Bierofka (Leverkusen); Winkler (retired); Tapalovic (Bochum); Rosler (Greuther Furth); Augun (Stuttgarter Kickers); Ipoua (released)

NURNBERG

GOALKEEPERS

1 Darius KAMPA
12 Raphael SCHAFER

DEFENDERS

2 Tomasz KOS (Pol)
21 Michael KUGLER
5 Marek NIKL (Cze)
10 Dusan PETKOVIC (Yug)
4 Milorad POPOVIC (Yug)
20 Tony SANNEH (USA)
18 Thomas STEHLE
3 Frank WIBLISHAUSER
24 Andreas WOLF

MIDFIELDERS

14 Dieter FREY
6 David JAROLIM (Cze)
27 JUNIOR (Bra)
8 Jacek KRZYNOWEK (Pol)
16 Tommy Svindal LARSEN (Nor)
17 Lars MULLER
15 Stephan PASSLACK
7 Rade TODOROVIC (Yug)

FORWARDS

23 Milan BELIC (Yug)
13 CACAU (Bra)
29 Sasa CIRIC (Mac)
9 Martin DRILLER
11 Kai MICHALKE
19 Marco VILLA

COACH

Klaus AUGENTHALER

OUT: Stoilov (Litex Lovech); Gomis (Duisburg); Mockel, Tavcar (both released)

SCHALKE

GOALKEEPERS

33 Christofer HEIMEROTH
27 Oliver RECK
1 Frank ROST
29 Volkan UNLU

DEFENDERS

6 Tomasz HAJTO (Pol)
28 Fabian LAMOTTE
3 Anibal MATELLAN (Arg)
18 Niels OUDE KAMPHUIS (Hol)
12 Marco VAN HOOGDALEM (Hol)
2 Nico VAN KERCKHOVEN (Blg)
15 Tomasz WALDOCH (Pol)

MIDFIELDERS

8 Jorg BOHME
16 Kristijan DJORDJEVIC (Yug)
5 Sven KMETSCH
7 Andreas MOLLER
20 Christian POULSEN (Den)
35 Filip TROJAN (Cze)
17 Sven VERMANT (Blg)
24 Marc WILMOTS (Blg)

FORWARDS

22 Victor AGALI (Nig)
14 Gerald ASAMOAH
26 Mike HANKE
21 Emile MPENZA (Blg)
11 Ebbe SAND (Den)

COACH

Frank NEUBARTH

OUT: Grodas (Honefuss); Happe (Koln); Nemec (Chmel Blsany); Rozgony (Energie Cottbus); Buskens, Hajnal, Szollar, Wingerter (all amateurs); Eigenrauch, Thon, Mulder, Tapalovic, Peric (all released)

STUTTGART

GOALKEEPERS

31 Diego BENAGLIO (Swi)
24 Thomas ERNST
1 Timo HILDEBRAND

DEFENDERS

5 Marcelo Jose BORDON (Bra)
16 Bradley CARNELL (SAf)
2 Andreas HINKEL
4 Rui Manuel MARQUES (Por)
6 Fernando MEIRA (Por)
14 Thomas SCHNEIDER
3 Timo WENZEL

MIDFIELDERS

24 Benjamin ADRION
10 Krassimir BALAKOV (Bul)
12 Heiko GERBER
15 Alexander HLEB (Bls)
7 Silvio MEISSNER
25 Michael MUTZEL
17 Jochen SEITZ
20 Zvonimir SOLDO (Cro)
8 Jens TODT
26 Robert VUJEVIC (Cro)

FORWARDS

19 ADHEMAR (Bra)
11 Ionnis AMANATIDIS (Gre)
36 Sean DUNDEE
23 Stephen Kanu FAMEWO (Nig)
9 Ioan GANEA (Rom)
33 Steffen HANDSCUH
22 Kevin KURANYI
13 Christian TIFFERT

COACH

Felix MAGATH

OUT: Endress (Reutlingen); Morena (released)

WERDER BREMEN

GOALKEEPERS

16 Pascal BOREL
31 Alexander WALKE
1 Jakub WIERZCHOWSKI (Pol)

DEFENDERS

33 Mike BARTEN
6 Frank BAUMANN
34 Manuel FRIEDRICH
20 Mladen KRSTAJIC (Yug)
14 Frank VERLAAT (Hol)

MIDFIELDERS

11 Ivica BANOVIC (Cro)
36 Stefan BECKERT
3 Stefan BLANK
24 Tim BOROWSKI
4 Fabian ERNST
8 Krisztian LISZTES (Hun)
23 Ludovic MAGNIN (Swi)
22 Marco REICH
26 Simon ROLFES
25 Philip SALYER (USA)
27 Christian SCHULZ
19 Victor SKRIPNIK (Ukr)
7 Paul STALTERI (Can)
28 Razundara TJIKUZU (Nam)
21 Holger WEHLAGE

FORWARDS

32 AILTON Goncalves da Silva (Bra)
18 Markus DAUN
9 Angelos HARISTEAS (Gre)
17 Ivan KLASNIC (Cro)
29 Blaise MAMOUN (Fra)
35 Marco STIER

COACH

Thomas SCHAAF

OUT: Bogdanovic (Arminia Bielefeld); Eilts (coaching staff); Frings (Dortmund); Rost (Schalke); Silva (Sporting Cristal); Bode, Kern (both released)

WOLFSBURG

GOALKEEPERS

30 Jesper CHRISTIANSEN (Den)
40 Patrick PLATINS
12 Sead RAMOVIC
1 Claus REITMAIER

DEFENDERS

13 Marino BILISKOV (Cro)
33 Maik FRANZ
3 Frank GREINER
20 Emeka IFEJIAGWA (Nig)
4 Kim MADSEN (Den)
19 Thomas RYTTER (Den)
5 Stefan SCHNOOR

MIDFIELDERS

6 Charles AKONNOR (Gha)
36 Michael HABRYKA
27 Miroslav KARHAN (Slk)
2 Michael MADSEN (Den)
23 Sven MULLER
8 Dorinel MUNTEANU (Rom)
16 Gernot PLASSNEGGER (Aut)
15 Tobias RAU
31 Hans SARPEI
7 Patrick WEISER

FORWARDS

9 Diego KLIMOWICZ (Arg)
11 Tomislav MARIC (Cro)
21 Martin PETROV (Bul)
26 Robson PONTE (Bra)
22 Roy PRAGER

COACH

Wolfgang WOLF

OUT: Juskowiak (Energie Cottbus); Kennedy (Stuttgarter Kickers); Kuhbauer (SV Mattersburg); Loboue (Greuther Furth); Petkovic (Nurnberg); Rische (Eintracht Braunschweig); Siegert (Wolfsburg amateurs); Nowak, Thomsen, Kryger (all released)

THE NEW SEASON IN EUROPE

GERMANY FIXTURES

FRI, AUGUST 9, 2002
Borussia Dortmund v Hertha Berlin

SAT, AUGUST 10
Energie Cottbus v Bayer Leverkusen
Nurnberg v Bochum
Monchengladbach v Bayern Munich
Schalke v Wolfsburg
Stuttgart v Kaiserslautern

SUN, AUGUST 11
Hamburg v Hannover
Arminia Bielefeld v Werder Bremen

WED, AUGUST 14
1860 Munich v Hansa Rostock

SAT, AUGUST 17
Hertha Berlin v Stuttgart
Bayern Munich v Arminia Bielefeld
Hannover v 1860 Munich
Hansa Rostock v Nurnberg
Bochum v Energie Cottbus
Bayer Leverkusen v Borussia Dortmund
Kaiserslautern v Schalke

SUN, AUGUST 18
Werder Bremen v Hamburg
Wolfsburg v Monchengladbach

SAT, AUGUST 24
Energie Cottbus v Hansa Rostock
1860 Munich v Werder Bremen
Hamburg v Bayern Munich
Arminia Bielefeld v Wolfsburg
Monchengladbach v Kaiserslautern
Bayer Leverkusen v Bochum
Borussia Dortmund v Stuttgart

SUN, AUGUST 25
Nurnberg v Hannover
Schalke v Hertha Berlin

TUE, SEPTEMBER 10
Bayern Munich v 1860 Munich
Werder Bremen v Nurnberg
Hertha Berlin v Monchengladbach
Bochum v Borussia Dortmund

WED, SEPTEMBER 11
Wolfsburg v Hamburg
Hannover v Energie Cottbus
Hansa Rostock v Bayer Leverkusen
Stuttgart v Schalke
Kaiserslautern v Arminia Bielefeld

SAT, SEPTEMBER 14
Energie Cottbus v Werder Bremen
Nurnberg v Bayern Munich
1860 Munich v Wolfsburg
Arminia Bielefeld v Hertha Berlin
Monchengladbach v Stuttgart
Bayer Leverkusen v Hannover
Borussia Dortmund v Schalke

SUN, SEPTEMBER 15
Bochum v Hansa Rostock
Hamburg v Kaiserslautern

SAT, SEPTEMBER 21
Hertha Berlin v Hamburg
Wolfsburg v Nurnberg
Bayern Munich v Energie Cottbus
Werder Bremen v Bayer Leverkusen
Hannover v Bochum
Hansa Rostock v Borussia Dortmund
Schalke v Monchengladbach
Stuttgart v Arminia Bielefeld
Kaiserslautern v 1860 Munich

SAT, SEPTEMBER 28
Energie Cottbus v Wolfsburg
Nurnberg v Kaiserslautern
1860 Munich v Hertha Berlin
Hamburg v Stuttgart
Arminia Bielefeld v Schalke
Hansa Rostock v Hannover
Bochum v Werder Bremen
Bayer Leverkusen v Bayern Munich
Borussia Dortmund v Monchengladbach

SAT, OCTOBER 5
Hertha Berlin v Nurnberg
Wolfsburg v Bayer Leverkusen
Bayern Munich v Bochum
Werder Bremen v Hansa Rostock
Hannover v Borussia Dortmund
Monchengladbach v Arminia Bielefeld
Schalke v Hamburg
Stuttgart v 1860 Munich
Kaiserslautern v Energie Cottbus

SAT, OCTOBER 19
Energie Cottbus v Hertha Berlin
Nurnberg v Stuttgart
1860 Munich v Schalke
Hamburg v Monchengladbach
Hannover v Werder Bremen
Hansa Rostock v Bayern Munich
Bochum v Wolfsburg
Bayer Leverkusen v Kaiserslautern
Borussia Dortmund v Arminia Bielefeld

SAT, OCTOBER 26
Hertha Berlin v Bayer Leverkusen
Wolfsburg v Hansa Rostock
Bayern Munich v Hannover
Werder Bremen v Borussia Dortmund
Arminia Bielefeld v Hamburg
Monchengladbach v 1860 Munich
Schalke v Nurnberg
Stuttgart v Energie Cottbus
Kaiserslautern v Bochum

SAT, NOVEMBER 2
Energie Cottbus v Schalke
Nurnberg v Monchengladbach
1860 Munich v Arminia Bielefeld
Werder Bremen v Bayern Munich
Hannover v Wolfsburg
Hansa Rostock v Kaiserslautern
Bochum v Hertha Berlin
Bayer Leverkusen v Stuttgart
Borussia Dortmund v Hamburg

SAT, NOVEMBER 9
Hertha Berlin v Hansa Rostock
Wolfsburg v Werder Bremen
Bayern Munich v Borussia Dortmund
Hamburg v 1860 Munich
Arminia Bielefeld v Nurnberg
Monchengladbach v Energie Cottbus
Schalke v Bayer Leverkusen
Stuttgart v Bochum
Kaiserslautern v Hannover

SAT, NOVEMBER 16
Energie Cottbus v Arminia Bielefeld
Nurnberg v Hamburg
Bayern Munich v Wolfsburg
Werder Bremen v Kaiserslautern
Hannover v Hertha Berlin
Hansa Rostock v Stuttgart
Bochum v Schalke
Bayer Leverkusen v Monchengladbach
Borussia Dortmund v 1860 Munich

SAT, NOVEMBER 23
Hertha Berlin v Werder Bremen
Wolfsburg v Borussia Dortmund
1860 Munich v Nurnberg
Hamburg v Energie Cottbus
Arminia Bielefeld v Bayer Leverkusen
Monchengladbach v Bochum
Schalke v Hansa Rostock
Stuttgart v Hannover
Kaiserslautern v Bayern Munich

SAT, NOVEMBER 30
Energie Cottbus v 1860 Munich
Nurnberg v Borussia Dortmund
Bayern Munich v Hertha Berlin
Werder Bremen v Stuttgart
Hannover v Schalke
Hansa Rostock v Monchengladbach
Bochum v Arminia Bielefeld
Bayer Leverkusen v Hamburg
Kaiserslautern v Wolfsburg

SAT, DECEMBER 7
Hertha Berlin v Wolfsburg
Nurnberg v Energie Cottbus
1860 Munich v Bayer Leverkusen
Hamburg v Bochum
Arminia Bielefeld v Hansa Rostock
Monchengladbach v Hannover
Schalke v Werder Bremen
Stuttgart v Bayern Munich
Borussia Dortmund v Kaiserslautern

SAT, DECEMBER 14
Energie Cottbus v Borussia Dortmund
Wolfsburg v Stuttgart
Bayern Munich v Schalke
Werder Bremen v Monchengladbach
Hannover v Arminia Bielefeld
Hansa Rostock v Hamburg
Bochum v 1860 Munich
Bayer Leverkusen v Nurnberg
Kaiserslautern v Hertha Berlin

SAT, JANUARY 25, 2003
Bayer Leverkusen v Energie Cottbus
Bochum v Nurnberg
Hansa Rostock v 1860 Munich
Hannover v Hamburg
Werder Bremen v Arminia Bielefeld
Bayern Munich v Monchengladbach
Wolfsburg v Schalke
Kaiserslautern v Stuttgart
Hertha Berlin v Borussia Dortmund

SAT, FEBRUARY 1
Stuttgart v Hertha Berlin
Monchengladbach v Wolfsburg
Arminia Bielefeld v Bayern Munich
Hamburg v Werder Bremen
1860 Munich v Hannover
Nurnberg v Hansa Rostock
Energie Cottbus v Bochum
Borussia Dortmund v Bayer Leverkusen
Schalke v Kaiserslautern

SAT, FEBRUARY 8
Hansa Rostock v Energie Cottbus
Hannover v Nurnberg
Werder Bremen v 1860 Munich
Bayern Munich v Hamburg
Wolfsburg v Arminia Bielefeld
Kaiserslautern v Monchengladbach
Hertha Berlin v Schalke
Bochum v Bayer Leverkusen
Stuttgart v Borussia Dortmund

SAT, FEBRUARY 15
Monchengladbach v Hertha Berlin
Hamburg v Wolfsburg
1860 Munich v Bayern Munich
Nurnberg v Werder Bremen
Energie Cottbus v Hannover
Bayer Leverkusen v Hansa Rostock
Borussia Dortmund v Bochum
Schalke v Stuttgart
Arminia Bielefeld v Kaiserslautern

SAT, FEBRUARY 22
Werder Bremen v Energie Cottbus
Bayern Munich v Nurnberg
Wolfsburg v 1860 Munich
Kaiserslautern v Hamburg
Hertha Berlin v Arminia Bielefeld
Stuttgart v Monchengladbach
Hansa Rostock v Bochum
Hannover v Bayer Leverkusen
Schalke v Borussia Dortmund

SAT, MARCH 1
Hamburg v Hertha Berlin
Nurnberg v Wolfsburg
Energie Cottbus v Bayern Munich

Bayer Leverkusen v Werder Bremen
Bochum v Hannover
Borussia Dortmund v Hansa Rostock
Monchengladbach v Schalke
Arminia Bielefeld v Stuttgart
1860 Munich v Kaiserslautern

SAT, MARCH 8

Wolfsburg v Energie Cottbus
Kaiserslautern v Nurnberg
Hertha Berlin v 1860 Munich
Stuttgart v Hamburg
Schalke v Arminia Bielefeld
Hannover v Hansa Rostock
Werder Bremen v Bochum
Bayern Munich v Bayer Leverkusen
Monchengladbach v Borussia Dortmund

SAT, MARCH 15

Nurnberg v Hertha Berlin
Bayer Leverkusen v Wolfsburg
Bochum v Bayern Munich
Hansa Rostock v Werder Bremen
Borussia Dortmund v Hannover
Arminia Bielefeld v Monchengladbach
Hamburg v Schalke
1860 Munich v Stuttgart
Energie Cottbus v Kaiserslautern

SAT, MARCH 22

Hertha Berlin v Energie Cottbus
Stuttgart v Nurnberg
Schalke v 1860 Munich
Monchengladbach v Hamburg
Werder Bremen v Hannover
Bayern Munich v Hansa Rostock
Wolfsburg v Bochum
Kaiserslautern v Bayer Leverkusen
Arminia Bielefeld v Borussia Dortmund

SAT, APRIL 5

Bayer Leverkusen v Hertha Berlin
Hansa Rostock v Wolfsburg
Hannover v Bayern Munich
Borussia Dortmund v Werder Bremen
Hamburg v Arminia Bielefeld
1860 Munich v Monchengladbach
Nurnberg v Schalke
Energie Cottbus v Stuttgart
Bochum v Kaiserslautern

SAT, APRIL 12

Schalke v Energie Cottbus
Monchengladbach v Nurnberg
Arminia Bielefeld v 1860 Munich
Bayern Munich v Werder Bremen
Wolfsburg v Hannover
Kaiserslautern v Hansa Rostock
Hertha Berlin v Bochum
Stuttgart v Bayer Leverkusen
Hamburg v Borussia Dortmund

SAT, APRIL 19

Hansa Rostock v Hertha Berlin
Werder Bremen v Wolfsburg
Borussia Dortmund v Bayern Munich
1860 Munich v Hamburg
Nurnberg v Arminia Bielefeld
Energie Cottbus v Monchengladbach
Bayer Leverkusen v Schalke
Bochum v Stuttgart
Hannover v Kaiserslautern

SAT, APRIL 26

Arminia Bielefeld v Energie Cottbus
Hamburg v Nurnberg
Wolfsburg v Bayern Munich
Kaiserslautern v Werder Bremen
Hertha Berlin v Hannover
Stuttgart v Hansa Rostock
Schalke v Bochum
Monchengladbach v Bayer Leverkusen
1860 Munich v Borussia Dortmund

SAT, MAY 3

Werder Bremen v Hertha Berlin
Borussia Dortmund v Wolfsburg
Nurnberg v 1860 Munich
Energie Cottbus v Hamburg
Bayer Leverkusen v Arminia Bielefeld
Bochum v Monchengladbach
Hansa Rostock v Schalke
Hannover v Stuttgart
Bayern Munich v Kaiserslautern

SAT, MAY 10

1860 Munich v Energie Cottbus
Borussia Dortmund v Nurnberg
Hertha Berlin v Bayern Munich
Stuttgart v Werder Bremen
Schalke v Hannover
Monchengladbach v Hansa Rostock
Arminia Bielefeld v Bochum
Hamburg v Bayer Leverkusen
Wolfsburg v Kaiserslautern

SAT, MAY 17

Wolfsburg v Hertha Berlin
Energie Cottbus v Nurnberg
Bayer Leverkusen v 1860 Munich
Bochum v Hamburg
Hansa Rostock v Arminia Bielefeld
Hannover v Monchengladbach
Werder Bremen v Schalke
Bayern Munich v Stuttgart
Kaiserslautern v Borussia Dortmund

SAT, MAY 24

Borussia Dortmund v Energie Cottbus
Stuttgart v Wolfsburg
Schalke v Bayern Munich
Monchengladbach v Werder Bremen
Arminia Bielefeld v Hannover
Hamburg v Hansa Rostock
1860 Munich v Bochum
Nurnberg v Bayer Leverkusen
Hertha Berlin v Kaiserslautern

New club...ex-Leverkusen man Michael Ballack kicks off with Bayern

Ajax set the standards

Team by team, Klaas-Jan Droppert previews the new Dutch season

HOLLAND

Cheers...but can Ronald Koeman repeat his Double success with Ajax this time?

Ajax

Double winners, although the difference in strength between them, PSV and Feyenoord wasn't that big. They need the same amount of luck or rivals' failure to repeat such a successful year. Still, with the arrival of Victor Sikora (see profile, opposite) and Nourdin Boukhari, Ajax are more balanced than last year. They have a good mix of experience and talent since the return to Amsterdam of Aron Winter and Richard Witschge, while Stefano Seedorf, Jelle Van Damme, Nigel De Jong and Maarten Stekelenburg, all members of the Ajax 2 side that reached last year's Cup semi-finals, have been included in the first-team squad. Coach Ronald Koeman was forced to make a late signing after reserve keepers Bogdan Lobont and Joey Didulica were injured. Now Henk Timmer (AZ) is Stekelenburg's understudy.

AZ Alkmaar

AZ usually begin the season with high expectations, but this year it's all quiet in Alkmaar. A mid-table finish is in prospect; anything else would be a surprise.

De Graafschap

Inexperienced coach Peter Bosz should do no worse than what the Doetinchem club achieve every year: staying just out of the relegation zone.

Excelsior

The Feyenoord nursery club were promoted after winning their end-of-season play-off group. With the help of Feyenoord (players and money), Excelsior should be able to beat the drop – a nice way to celebrate their centenary.

Feyenoord

By concentrating on winning the UEFA Cup the Rotterdam club effectively withdrew from last season's title race. They will focus on the championship this time round, although it will be difficult to replace Jon Dahl Tomasson. Now Heerenveen's Anthony Lurling and Belgian Thomas Buffel (loaned to Excelsior last year) have the huge challenge to follow the Dane, now at Milan. Other signings were Chilean midfielder Sebastian Pardo, Excelsior winger Brian Pinas and reserve keeper Patrick Lodewijks (PSV). Ulrich Van Gobbel and Jan De Visser have both retired.

Groningen

During the 1980s, the club were often candidates for European football, but nowadays they have slipped to the other end of the table. Should be too good to go down, though.

Heerenveen

Best of the rest. Should claim the fourth place behind the big three and gain a UEFA Cup ticket. They still have to find a solution for the departures of Marcus Allback (Aston Villa) and Lurling. But long-serving coach Foppe De Haan has survived the departures of Ruud Van Nistelrooy and Tomasson in the past, and will probably do so again.

NAC Breda

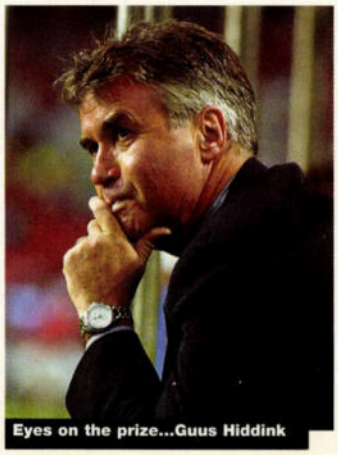
Nearly missed out on a licence to play football because of huge debts. Unlike Vitesse, they have still been able to keep a strong squad together. Could claim the UEFA Cup spot that was narrowly missed last season.

NEC Nijmegen

Steadily making progress since the arrival of Johan Neeskens after Euro 2000. A dark horse for a European spot.

PSV Eindhoven

Leading contenders for the title, along with Ajax. Trophyless last season and out for revenge under World Cup hero Guus Hiddink, who did miracles in South Korea and could do the same back in Eindhoven. Hiddink needs to squeeze the best out of Mark Van Bommel, Kevin Hofland, and Mateja Kezman, who all stayed in Holland because of the collapse of the European transfer market. PSV signed several young Dutch talents last year, but wing-back Michael Lamey (RKC), winger Arjan Robben (Groningen) and keeper Jelle ten Rouwelaar (Emmen) were allowed to stay at those clubs to gain experience. Now they have arrived in Eindhoven, along with schemer Remco Van der Schaaf (Vitesse) and Australian international Lindsay Wilson. Yuri Nikiforov and Ivica Kralj have left.



Eyes on the prize...Guus Hiddink

RBC Roosendaal

Gained an unexpected promotion two years ago but went straight back down. The yo-yo club are back again but still not good enough to stay up.

RKC Waalwijk

One of the smallest budgets, but they have only just missed out on European football in recent years. RKC seem to be a little bit weaker this season.

Roda JC

Had a disastrous season by finishing 13th. It's up to inexperienced coach Wiljan Vloet to get Roda back on track for a UEFA Cup place.

Twente Enschede

Another club who had a poor 2001-02. Former Belgian international Rene Vandereycken will have a job to turn them into UEFA Cup candidates.

Utrecht

Controversially defeated in the Cup Final, Utrecht lost coach Frans Adelaar, who said the team can't progress without new signings. He could be right.

Vitesse Arnhem

Almost bankrupted, Vitesse had to sell key players like Sikora to gain a licence. Could still clinch a UEFA Cup place because they possess some great talent and a shrewd coach in Mike Snoei.

Willem II

After qualifying for the Champions League in 1999 the Tilburg club peaked. They now risk losing touch with the UEFA Cup contenders.

Zwolle

Last year's Second Division champions after several close calls. Likely to be too weak to avoid relegation.

Defiant...Molenbeek fans show faith in their crisis-torn club

BELGIUM

RWDM facing the end

THE prospect of demotion to the Third Division proved the least of RWD Molenbeek's problems since their very existence in the Belgian League has been hanging by a thread.

The federation executive committee were due to meet on August 23 to decide whether a financial package put together by former player Johan Vermeersch was acceptable to allow RWDM to continue operating.

The Brussels club, who finished 10th out of 18 in the top division last season, were demoted because their heavy debts meant that they were refused a professional licence.

Vermeersch's last-minute intervention offered to pay off RWDM's £30,000 debt to the federation. However, the club's ultimate fate was likely to be decided by how much time, if any, the governing body would allow them to pay off the rest of the £20million they owe other parties.

If they are reprieved, RWDM will fulfil their first fixture in Division 3B against Racing Mechelen on September 1. If not, there will be 15 clubs in that division just as there are in Division 3A following the collapse of short-lived Zuid West Vlaanderen.

Their expiry means that the Forestierstadion ground, previously belonging to Harelbeke, will now be taken over by Second Division Ingelmunster, who will transport supporters there free of charge.

With RWDM's future hanging in the balance, it was little surprise that Spanish coach Emilio Ferrera left for Lierse, who had not renewed Regi Van Acker's contract.

Another club to change coach were Charleroi, who appointed little-known Etienne Delangre as successor to coach/owner Enzo Scifo. The former international had decided that he did not like the way the club was being run.

Delangre, 39, who had only played for and coached lower division clubs, had a swift reply for those who suggested he was not up to the task of coaching in the top flight. "I have been ready for two or three years now," he said.

Stephane De Mol, a rather better known figure than Delangre, is another new appointment. The former Belgium central defender has taken over at promoted KV Mechelen after leaving Turnout when they, too, lost their licence and were relegated from the Second Division to the Fourth.

Beveren, who escaped relegation only because of RWDM's crisis, have put Herman Helleputte in charge after dismissing Thierry Pister, their fourth coach last season.

Nicholas Harling

Pro-file Victor Sikora

Ajax winger following in Overmars' footsteps

ALTHOUGH this summer's European transfer market was the quietest on record, the case of one particular player continued to make headlines in Holland.

Where would Vitesse winger Victor Sikora be heading – Ajax or Fulham?

In the end, the Dutch international opted for a reunion with his former coach Ronald Koeman. But the move was complicated by the fact that Fulham were prepared to pay more for Sikora.

Vitesse, who are virtually bankrupt, could have used the extra cash and were keen on Sikora joining the English Premiership club.

However, after medical tests on Sikora's weak ankle, Fulham wanted to pay the transfer fee in instalments over four years. Vitesse said no and accepted Ajax's original, lower offer, much to the player's relief.

"I spent four days and three sleepless nights in London," Sikora said. "I was constantly wondering if it wasn't too soon to be moving abroad. That Ajax will be my next club must be fate. It's a step I can't skip."

Not that he doesn't want to play in the Premier League at some point in the future. He has always said that is his long-term aim, especially after hearing the stories of Holland team-mates Ruud Van Nistelrooy and Jimmy Floyd Hasselbaink.

That Sikora has preferred to follow a career path similar to that of Marc Overmars is no coincidence. Both are stocky and speedy wingers who can play on either flank. Like Overmars, Sikora started at Go Ahead Eagles in his hometown of Deventer before playing eventually for Ajax. Sikora even replaced Overmars when he made his debut for Holland, against Turkey in February 2001.

However, there is more to Sikora than just being an Overmars clone. He can also play as a striker in a 4-4-2 formation. Furthermore, his determination, studiousness and modesty make him admired by people like Koeman and Barcelona boss Louis Van Gaal.

Sikora says he inherited the character traits of his late grandfather, a Polish parachutist during World War II, who stayed in Holland. His biggest fan died last year but still plays an important part in his life. After every match Sikora visits his grandfather's grave to tell him about the game.

Koeman has no doubt Sikora's future is bright, saying: "He could improve his crossing but he has huge potential and can only get better."

If he does, playing in England is the next step. But by then more Premiership clubs are likely to be chasing him.

Klaas-Jan Droppert

Fact file

Club Ajax
Country Holland
Born April 11, 1978, in Deventer
Previous clubs Go Ahead Eagles, Vitesse
International debut February 2001, v Turkey
International caps 5 (0 goals)

'Depressed' Jardel ready to leave Sporting

Alberto da Silva on the strange case of the Golden Shoe winner

PORTUGAL

SPORTING LISBON went into the new campaign without three of the players who helped them to the League and Cup double last season: Mario Jardel, Hugo Viana and Joao Pinto.

Teenage starlet Hugo Viana was sold to Newcastle, while Portugal forward Joao Pinto was banned for four months by FIFA for his attack on Argentinian referee Angel Sanchez during the World Cup.

Joao Pinto's ban was quite lenient, and the money from Hugo Viana's sale (£8 million) most welcome. But the loss of 42-goal Golden Shoe winner Jardel was more complicated.

The striker arrived back from a summer break in Brazil to tell the club he would not be able to start the new season as he was suffering from depression following the break-up of his marriage. He then called a press conference to announce that he wanted to leave Sporting. His problems have been compounded, friends say, by his omission from Brazil's World Cup squad by Luiz Felipe Scolari.

Sporting allowed Jardel to go back to Brazil, but he failed to return to Lisbon for a medical a fortnight later, fuelling suspicions that he is keen on a transfer to Italy or Spain.

Newspaper *Diario de Noticias* led with the headline: "Sporting directors are offering Jardel to Benfica." But as Sporting kicked off against Inter in their Champions League qualifying round tie without Jardel, we were no nearer a resolution to this strange tale.

Mystery...Sporting are none the wiser over Jardel

SWITZERLAND

Straight six for Grasshopper

GRASSHOPPER set a domestic League record by winning their first six matches of the new season. The previous best start under the current League format was by Neuchatel Xamax with five wins in 1989-90.

The Zurich club set the new mark with a 4-0 thrashing of visitors Young Boys, the new club of star striker Stephane Chapuisat. He was refused a new contract by Grasshopper earlier this year on the grounds they were looking for a cheaper and younger player. Chapuisat, 33, was Swiss football's top-paid player during his time at Grasshopper, with an annual salary of £440,000. His replacement is 25-year-old Antonio Barijho, on loan from Argentina's Boca Juniors on a salary of £270,000. He set up two goals and scored his first in the rout of Young Boys.

Basle made short work of Slovakia's MSK Zilina in the second

TEAM BY TEAM - THE TITLE CONTENDERS

Benfica

Lack of financial muscle at the Stadium of Light meant a somewhat restrained recruitment programme. Hungarian striker Miklos Feher (FC Porto) and Brazilian front man Anderson (Alverca) came on free transfers, right-back Eder is on loan from Central Inhumense and left-back Cristiano was brought in from Beira Mar in exchange for defenders Toni and Diogo. Benfica fans who love a big-name signing will be satisfied by the arrival of two Portugal internationals – defensive midfielder Petit (Boavista, see profile opposite) and striker Nuno Gomes (Fiorentina). The sale of German keeper Robert Enke to Barcelona gives Nuno Santos, ex-Beira Mar, the chance to stake his claim.

Belenenses

Belenenses coach Marinho Peres enjoys a fine reputation in Portugal, but even he will find it hard to repeat last season's fifth-place finish. He will especially miss FC Porto-bound attacking midfield starlet Cesar Peixoto, and though the club made eight new signings, the majority may struggle to make an impact. The exceptions are former Farense left-back Carlos Fernandes and defensive midfielder Rogerio (Salamanca).

Boavista

Boavista have been weakened by the sale of stopper Pedro Emanuel and Petit to FC Porto and Benfica respectively. But at least coach Jaime Pacheco can still count on fast-improving keeper Ricardo, effervescent right-sided midfielder Martelinho and stealthy Brazilian striker Silva. Among the new signings are Brazilian front man Luiz Claudio (Sport Recife), Guinea forward Sana (Lamego), midfield holder Ico (Setubal) and striker Cafu (Belenenses).

Maritimo

Boss Nelo Vingada lost most of his midfield inspiration when Bruno and Danny moved on to FC Porto and Sporting Lisbon this summer. However, new towering Brazilian striker Jaques (ex-Uniao Leiria) should prove a handful for defences. Other pivotal figures are Egyptian left-sided midfielder Sabry and Brazilian frontrunner Gaucho.

FC Porto

Although the Dragons were sorry to see excellent young centre-back Jorge Andrade quit the club for Deportivo La Coruna, former Boavista stopper Pedro Emanuel is a more than worthy replacement. He will be paired at the heart of the defence with experienced Portugal international Jorge Costa, back after a loan spell at Charlton and who has been reappointed skipper by coach Jose Mourinho. Porto are banking on a trio of attacking new signings: former Uniao Leiria striker Derlei, Cesar Peixoto (Belenenses) – the left-sided star of Portugal's Under-21s – and Lithuanian Edgaras Jankauskas, who was on loan at Benfica last season from Real Sociedad.

Sporting Lisbon

The champions are beset with problems. Hugo Viana has moved on to England with Newcastle, Joao Pinto is banned for four months, and now Jardel (42 goals last season) is said to be suffering with depression and is pleading to leave (see above). Conversely, coach Laszlo Boloni will be relieved that Romanian striker Marius Niculae is fit again after missing much of last term with a knee ligament injury. New faces include Chilean centre-back Pablo Contreras (Celta Vigo), Brazilian attacking midfielder Marcos Paulo (Cruzeiro), and young Belarus forward Vitaly Kutuzov, who has arrived on loan from Milan.

Nick Bidwell

leg of their Champions League second qualifying round. The Swiss champions won 3-0 away following a 1-1 draw at home to set up a lucrative tie with Celtic.

Former Swiss international Raimondo Ponte has stepped down as coach of Lucerne. The Naples-born boss has taken the reins at Italian C1 side Carrarese, where his brother Antonio is now president.

Meanwhile, Lucerne have been docked four points, and Second Division Lugano and Winterthur seven and eight respectively, for submitting fraudulent financial documents in their applications for licences last season. Appeals from all three clubs are pending.

Bundesliga side Koln have loaned Swiss international Marc Zellweger to top division new boys Wil for a year.

Ivar von Rulach

Unhappy return...Chapuisat

REP IRELAND

Bohemians start brightly

THE domestic League's switch to summer football has proved popular so far, with most clubs reporting an increase in attendances since the season got under way in early July. To avoid a clash with Gaelic games on Sundays, almost all matches are being played on Friday or Saturday nights.

Bohemians were the early pacesetters, winning four of their first five games. These included a home defeat of arch Dublin rivals Shamrock Rovers, something they had not achieved for six years.

Derry City, who lost four of their first five games, have signed former Irish international forward David Kelly. The Candystripes are Kelly's 11th senior club.

Martin Lawlor was the first managerial casualty of the season. He was sacked by Longford Town two days before the start of the campaign. His replacement is assistant Alan Matthews.

There were some big wins for Premier Division sides in the first round of the FAI Carlsberg Cup. Cork City trounced Glenmore 9-0, while Shelbourne got over their European defeat by Hibernians of Malta by hammering Rockmount 8-0. There was one upset, however, with minnows Fairview Rangers of Limerick beating First Division Dublin City. Meanwhile, Dundalk will go down as the briefest holders of the Cup. Four months after beating Bohemians in the Final last April, the County Louth club went out to Shamrock Rovers in the first round.

Sean Creedon

LEICHTENSTEIN

Frick makes about-turn

NATIONAL coach Ralf Loose received a boost when star striker Mario Frick reversed his decision and agreed to play again for Liechtenstein. The Verona player changed his mind following a meeting with federation president Markus Wenger.

Vaduz, the principality's top club, have signed three internationals over the summer, all from Swiss sides – Ronny Buchel (Young Boys), Martin Stocklasa (Zurich) and Michael Stocklasa (Baden). National team keeper Andreas Hilfiker has moved to Lucerne, with Romauld Peiser in as his replacement from Krefeld Uerdingen. Vaduz's other signings were Nigerian Philip Obhafuoso (Winterthur) and Simone Troisio (Triesen).

Graeme Crawford

Pro-file Petit

Battling midfielder staying put in Portugal

FEW people foresaw the transfer of Portugal midfielder Petit from Boavista to Benfica.

When Boavista president Joao Loureiro declared at the end of last season that he intended to sell off one or two stars to satisfy the bank manager, everyone knew Petit would be one of them. But the assumption was that the 25-year-old would leave the country. Indeed, the player said as much himself. "Boavista are a great team, but I want to play in a more competitive championship," said Petit, whose real name is Armando Goncalves Teixeira but who earned the nickname because of his slight build and the fact he was born in France.

On returning from Portugal's shambolic World Cup campaign, it seemed as if he would have his wish, with Spain's Atletico Madrid and Real Betis showing the strongest interest. However, Boavista turned down offers of £3.3 million from both clubs and neither would raise their bid.

Enter Benfica, who finally concluded a deal to take him to Lisbon on a five-year contract for a reputed £4m. It was not the overseas move Petit had longed for and he had given up the opportunity of European football this season – Boavista qualified for the Champions League as domestic runners-up, while Benfica finished only fourth to miss out even on the UEFA Cup. Even so, Petit insisted he was happy. "This is a positive move," he argued. "I shall be playing for a League title with Benfica, and that's something special."

Benfica have not won the title since 1994, and Petit knows all about their tendency to look good on paper and insipid on grass. But he has already come through much tougher challenges.

As a youngster, he had to have an operation on a deformed left leg and, for a time, thought he would never play again. Then, after helping Boavista's youth team to the 1995 national championship, his form dipped so badly during loan spells at three lower league sides that he contemplated quitting the game and working in his parents' cafe in Oporto. Petit did not give up, though. Another loan move, to Gil Vicente, worked out so well that Boavista recalled him for the start of the 2000-01 season. Nine months later, he was a star of a title-winning side and a full international.

Benfica have a player who loves a battle, and that is just what they need. "It does not matter if I'm playing against Bayern Munich or a regional side," says Petit. "I always give everything. I'm a competitive animal."

Nick Bidwell

Fact file

Club Benfica
Country Portugal
Born September 25, 1976, in Strasbourg, France
Previous clubs Bom Pastor, Esposende, Gondomar, Uniao Lamas, Gil Vicente, Boavista
International debut June 2001, v Rep Ireland
International caps 13 (0 goals)
Honours Portuguese League 2001 (Boavista)

It's the big three again

Hasan Cemali on a familiar look to the new campaign

TURKEY

ARIEL ORTEGA was the biggest name arrival for the start of the new Turkish League season, as Fenerbahce bid to overturn Galatasaray's dominance.

Ortega, the Argentina World Cup forward, joined Fenerbahce from River Plate. At £3million, he was the biggest signing by the Istanbul club.

The big three again look like dominating the title race, and Fener have the most settled look. German coach Werner Lorant is still in charge – in contrast to Galatasaray, where the returning Fatih Terim has replaced Romanian Mircea Lucescu, who has moved across town to Besiktas.

Lorant, who also added Brazilian striker Washington to add extra firepower alongside existing forwards Haim Revivo, Serhat Akin and Oktay Derelioglu, claims that his commitment to attacking football is greater than ever and will prove it by playing a 3-2-5 formation.

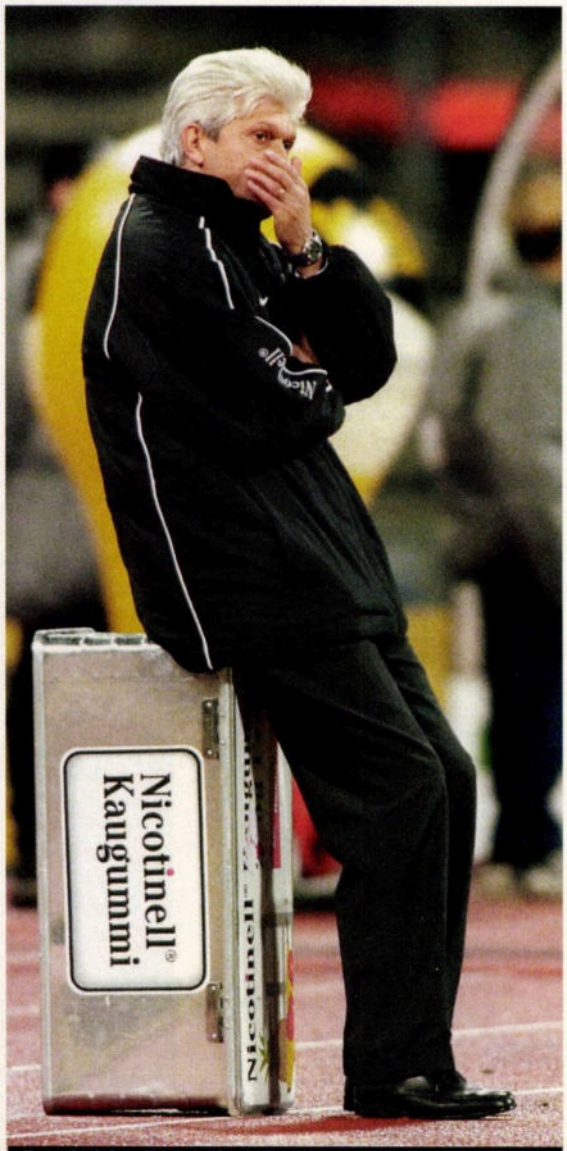
Gala and Besiktas have been undergoing change with the arrivals of Terim and Lucescu respectively.

Gala piled on the goals in pre-season friendlies, beating Dundee United 3-1, Auxerre 4-1 and Olympiakos 2-0. Their most impressive players were Umit Karan, Berkant and Mohammed Sarr, a loan signing from Milan. Terim believes they still need a striker and has reportedly shown interest in another Brazilian, Neves Adriano from Vasco de Gama, to join compatriots Fabio Pinto and Felipe at Ali Sami Yen.

Besiktas have adopted a more defensive approach under Lucescu, but French striker Pascal Nouma has returned from Marseille, Colombian keeper Oscar Cordoba arrived from Boca Juniors, plus Brazilians Mariano Da Silva (Fiorentina) and Zago (Roma), while former favourite Sergen Yalcin is also back.

Nouma had a difficult first spell after joining in June 2000. He was regarded as an ideal spearhead for their Champions League campaign, but quickly gained a reputation for enjoying Istanbul's nightlife.

Besiktas will have to do without World Cup hero Ilhan Mansiz for a month after he was forced to undergo surgery on a minor knee problem.



Box of tricks...Fenerbahce boss Lorant preaches all-out attack

PAOK signing...Radoslaw Majdan

GREECE

Foreigners sign up for 12 months

FIRST DIVISION clubs continued to sign foreign players in a bid to help them through the new season. But most are only one-season loan deals.

Iraklis picked up Roda JC defender Regilio Vrede, who will play for a year, the first time the 29-year-old has left the Dutch First Division.

Aris Salonika also looked to Holland, signing Ajax midfielder Richard Knopper on a one-year loan. "I believe I will bring them luck this season," Knopper said of the club which finished seventh last season and has yet to win a trophy since 1970.

In another one-year deal, Panathinaikos signed Carlos Narciso Chainho from Zaragoza. The 28-year-old Angolan native previously had three seasons with FC Porto.

PAOK Salonika captured Polish goalkeeper Radoslaw Majdan, who played in his country's final World Cup game, a 3-1 defeat of the United States.

Xanthi have signed French defender Franck Rabarivony, who spent last season with Portugal's Vitoria Guimaraes. The 31-year-old, previously with Auxerre and Spain's Oviedo, signed a one-year deal.

Ionikos signed three foreigners – Kendal Ucar of France, Seku Kone of the Ivory Coast and Antonio Carocol of Spain – all for one year.

Former Olympiakos and Inter defender Grigoris Georgatos has switched to AEK Athens. The 30-year-old Greek international has signed a three-year contract.

First Division newcomers Giannina have added Sturm Graz midfielder Roman Mahlich to their squad – again for one year.

Akratitos signed Egypt goalkeeper Nader El Sayed, who was named best keeper at the 1998 and 2000 African Nations Cups.

Lou Economopoulos

SCOTLAND

10 versus 2

THE start of the new season was overshadowed by an almighty row between the Old Firm clubs, Celtic and Rangers, and the remaining 10 members of the Premier League.

A series of meetings of the club chairmen had tried to resolve the vexed question of TV rights. A solution was eventually found, although this came too late to be in place by the start of the season.

But further discussions took place on the League's voting structure. Currently, any major proposal, such as a TV deal, must be approved by a majority of at least 11-1. This effectively means that the two Old Firm clubs can veto any change.

It soon became apparent that neither Rangers nor Celtic were agreeable to any change to the voting rights. The talks ended with the remaining 10 clubs handing in their resignations from the League, subject to two years' notice.

With such controversy off the field, it was difficult to focus on the competitive action. There was a definite low-key atmosphere as the season kicked off, the general lack of interest being exacerbated by the enforced absence of either television or radio coverage of the opening games.

Champions Celtic hoisted the League flag in front of a capacity

Parkhead crowd for the second year in succession and the fans watched as Martin O'Neill's men ground out an efficient, if unspectacular victory over Dunfermline.

There was no place for O'Neill's latest recruit, Sweden goalkeeper Magnus Hedman, who had joined from Coventry a few days earlier, but that situation is expected to alter very quickly. Hedman joins up with compatriots Johan Mjallby and Henrik Larsson to create an even more pronounced Scandinavian ambience around Glasgow's east end. And as Hedman says: "I didn't come here to sit on the bench."

Rivals Rangers, bolstered by new Spanish signing Mikel Arteta, laboured to a draw at Kilmarnock. With Italian defender Lorenzo Amoruso having stated that the club can afford to drop only six points if they are going to win the title, the pressure is on.

After years of non-achievement, many feel Aberdeen are now ready to re-establish themselves as a major force. They opened up with a last-gasp victory away to Hibernian. Manager Ebbe Skovdahl indicated when he arrived at Pittodrie that he needed five years to turn round the club's fortunes. The amiable Norwegian is nearing the end of that timescale, but there are definite signs that he is ready to deliver.

National team boss Berti Vogts is preparing to lead Scotland into competitive action for the first time since his appointment as Craig Brown's successor earlier this year. Vogts takes the team to the Faroe Islands for the first of the Euro 2004 qualifiers on September 7.

Alan Fairley

WALES

Barry suffer summertime blues

BARRY TOWN manager Kenny Brown accused his players of lacking professionalism and commitment after they lost 5-0 to Latvia's Skonto Riga in the first leg of their Champions League qualifying tie.

Barry also lost the second leg, at home, 1-0, meaning Wales' title holders once again failed to clear the first hurdle in European competition.

Welsh sides are disadvantaged by playing such ties in the summer months before their season gets under way and against clubs who are in the middle of their domestic campaign. The latest defeat may well prompt a stronger call for the League to be played during the summer.

Mel Thomas

N IRELAND

Portadown edged out

PORTADOWN failed to buck the trend when, like many domestic title holders before them, they bowed out of the Champions League at the first qualifying round stage. However, their exit was a close-run thing. The first leg at Shamrock Park against Belshina Bobruisk of Belarus ended goalless, but despite scoring twice in the return through Gary Hamilton and Vinny Arkins, Portadown were beaten by the odd goal in five.

The club's hopes of retaining the League title were dented after long-serving central defender Philip Major refused to sign a new deal.

Linfield have signed striker Lee Feeney from Rangers and Wigan midfielder Hugh Dickson, but lost set-piece specialist Tony Gorman to Coleraine.

Glentoran have added former West Brom keeper Elliott Morris to their roster following the departure of Alan Gough to Derry City in the Republic, while midfielder and former captain Pete Batey moved to ambitious Glenavon.

Roy Kitson

United we stand...representatives of the 10 Scottish Premier League 'rebel' clubs, who have given notice to quit after a voting rights row with Celtic and Rangers

Rosenborg on a roll

The Trondheim club are making a real go of winning their 11th straight title, writes Sigurd Odegaard

NORWAY

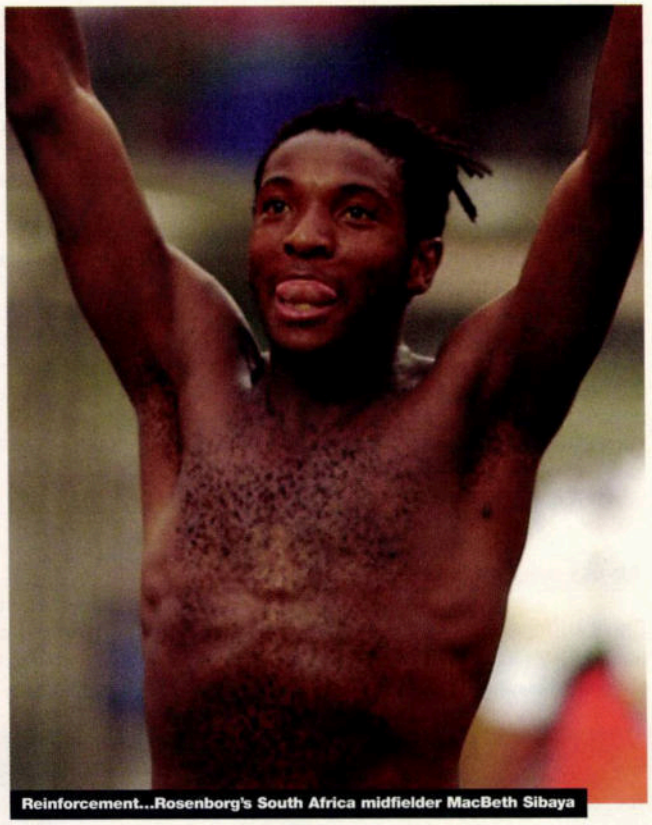
PERENNIAL champions Rosenborg laboured through the first half of the season but made it clear they have not given up on the title with a 3-2 win over long-time leaders Lyn in Oslo at the end of July.

The Trondheim club followed up by beating Brann away and Lillestrom and Bryne at home to go top by a point with eight games remaining.

Remarkably, Rosenborg came from behind in all four matches to give themselves a great chance of taking their 11th consecutive League crown.

The champions reinforced their squad ahead of their European campaign by signing South Africa midfielder MacBeth Sibaya from Jomo Cosmos. Lyn have taken defender Thabang Molefe from the same club until the end of the season.

Last season's runners-up, Lillestrom, have continued to struggle. They bought experienced German Uwe Rosler and Icelandic international Rikhardur Dadason to boost their firepower, and both scored in a 2-1 victory over Bryne. However, Lillestrom were beaten 1-0 home and away by Zeljeznicar of Bosnia to crash out of the Champions League.



Reinforcement...Rosenborg's South Africa midfielder MacBeth Sibaya

DENMARK

Brondby blow hot and cold

MICHAEL LAUDRUP'S eventful start to life as a manager continued with a rollercoaster ride in his opening few matches in charge of Brondby.

In the Danish Superliga he began with an impressive 3-0 victory away to Silkeborg. But the second game brought an abrupt fall to earth as the champions went 3-0 behind at home to AB Copenhagen inside 38 minutes. Kaspar Dalgas pulled a goal back, but the team's woe was complete when new signing Morten Wieghorst was sent off.

Moving on...Haka's Peter Kovacs

In their Champions League qualifiers, it took an injury-time goal for Brondby to overcome Dinamo Tirana of Albania 1-0 in the home first leg. But in the return, the Danes romped to a 4-0 triumph.

In part, the problem for Brondby has been in adjusting to Laudrup's insistence on a more attacking 4-3-3 formation. When it works it looks fabulous, but when it doesn't Brondby are quickly in trouble.

Victory against Tirana set up a showdown with Rosenborg. It was immediately called a 'soccer war' in the regional media, and the truth was that it would decide which is currently Scandinavia's best club – and which one will have the chance to buy new players in the next few months by qualifying for the lucrative group stages.

AB's victory over Brondby made them the instant leaders of the Superliga. Meanwhile, Farum enjoyed a 3-2 victory over Viborg in their opening home top-division game.

Jim Holden

SWEDEN

Ijeh among the goals

A YEAR after selling Zlatan Ibrahimovic to Ajax, Malmo are set to hit the jackpot again should they decide to cash in on their top-scoring Nigerian forward Peter Ijeh.

The 24-year-old, signed last year for a modest fee from Julius Berger, has dominated Sweden's scoring chart this year, hitting 14 goals in just 13 League games. That has helped Malmo in their pursuit of leaders Orgryte, and they also strengthened their back line by signing keeper Mattias Asper from Real Sociedad.

Halmstads coach Jonas Thern has signed World Cup midfielder Magnus Svensson from Brondby and taken striker Pascal Simpson on loan from FC Copenhagen.

Hooliganism has once again marred the season, and claimed its first official fatality after a 26-year-old man died during a fight between AIK and IFK Gothenburg supporters in Stockholm.

Pentti Hietanen

FINLAND

Haka sink after selling Kovacs

FC HAKA raised eyebrows by selling Hungarian forward Peter Kovacs to Tromso of Norway just two days before their InterToto Cup second leg meeting with Fulham.

It seemed all the more peculiar given that they had drawn 0-0 in England in the first leg and that only a modest fee was involved. In the end, Haka lost to Fulham on the away goals rule, after a 1-1 draw.

Kovacs' contract was up at the end of the season, however, and he had made it known he would like to leave Finland. The club subsequently signed Estonian midfielder Sergei Terehhov from Brann of Norway.

In the League, Keith Armstrong's HJK Helsinki led on the back of Mika Kottila's goals. However, the team will have to do without Swedish stopper Joakim Jensen for the rest of the season because of a stomach injury. HJK bought cover in Tero Penttila, from Rangers.

Finland defender Janne Salli, lately with Barnsley in England, has retired because of a recurring knee injury.

Pentti Hietanen

ICELAND

IA dogged by problems

IA AKRANES, dismissed from the Cup by holders Fylkir, dumped out of the Champions League by Bosnia's Zeljeznicar and defeated at home in the League by leaders KR, emerged from the dog days of July with their tails between their legs and facing the grim reality of a season without silverware.

With five League rounds left, the championship crown looked headed for Reykjavik, with only goal difference separating Fylkir and KR in top spot. Fylkir, led by ex-IA assistant coach Adalsteinn Viglundsson, have the edge in terms of consistency

Rab Christie

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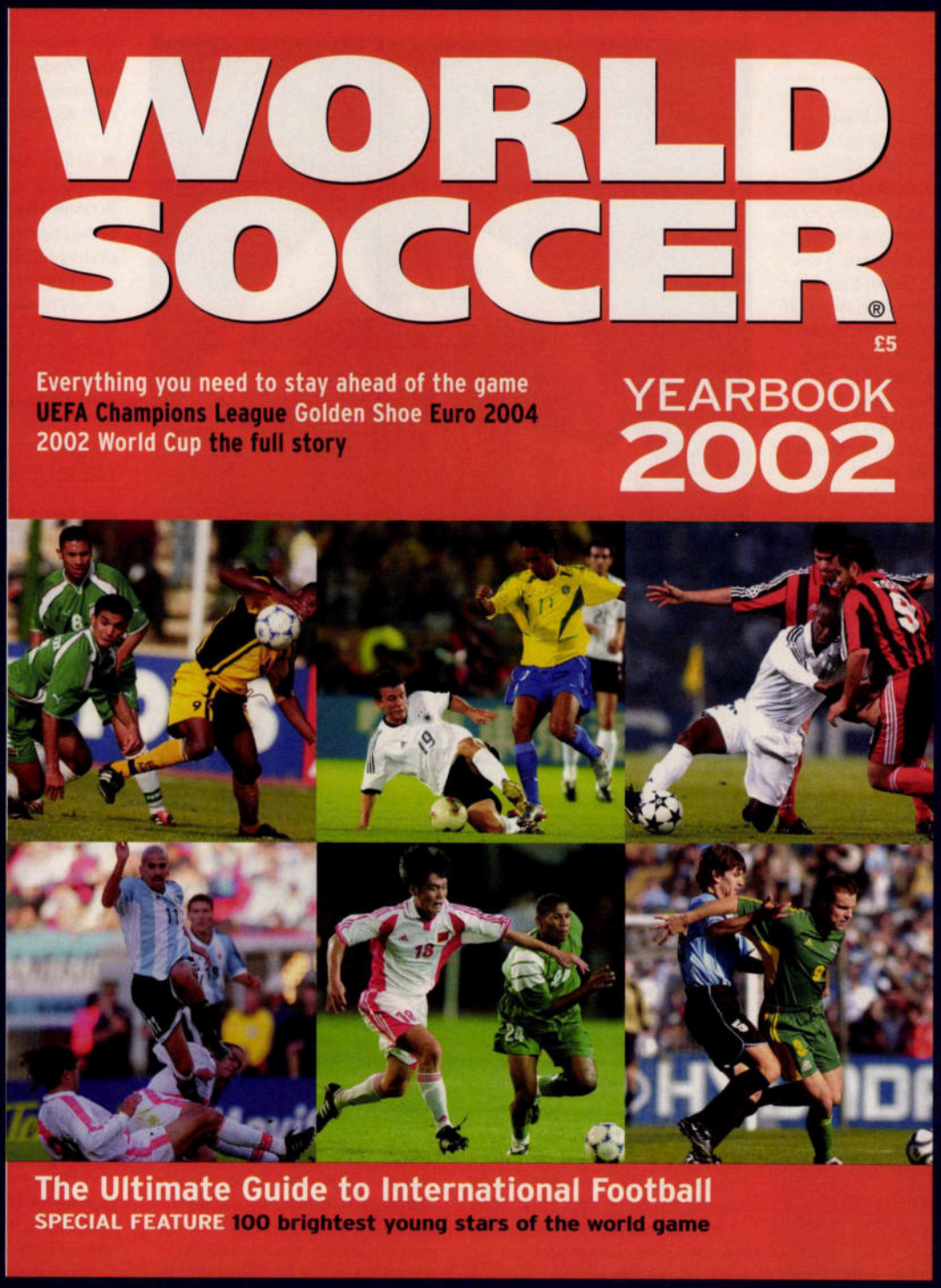

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Zahovic makes his peace

The country's best player has agreed to return to national team duty, writes Zdravko Reic

SLOVENIA

NEW national team coach Bojan Prasnikar has acted quickly to bring Slovenia's best player, Zlatko Zahovic, back into the international fold.

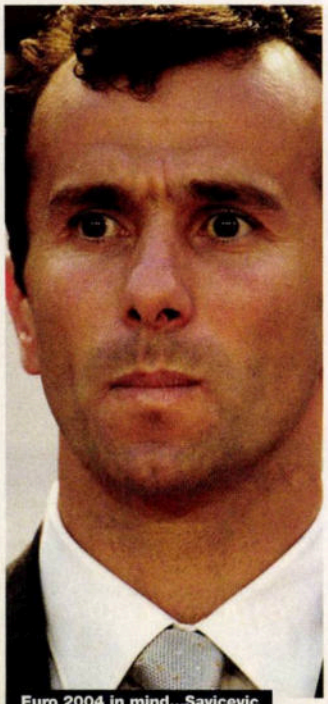
Zahovic vowed never to play for his country again after being sent home from the World Cup following a row with previous coach Srecko Katanec. But shortly after taking over, Prasnikar arranged a meeting with the player and federation president Rudi Zavrl, after which Zahovic agreed to return.

Meanwhile, Zahovic, who has scored 32 goals in 65 internationals, has been fined £10,000 for his behaviour at the World Cup. He verbally abused Katanec after being substituted during Slovenia's 3-1 defeat by Spain in their opening group match.

Maribor gained the upper hand on co-title favourites Olimpija when the two teams met in the third week of the new season. The champions ran out 1-0 winners in Ljubljana, though the victory came six days after a surprise home defeat by early leaders Koper.

New Olimpija owner Jurij Schollmayer has signed international Mladen Rudonja and Croatia midfielder Robert Prosinecki, both from English First Division side Portsmouth.

Banished...Zahovic was sent home from the World Cup after a row with the coach


Euro 2004 in mind...Savicevic

YUGOSLAVIA

It's official – Savicevic takes the helm

DEJAN SAVICEVIC, as expected, has been appointed as the new national coach. The former Red Star Belgrade and Milan forward had been at the helm anyway since May 2001 – first as a member of a three-man coaching team, along with Vujadin Boskov and Ivan Curkovic, then over the past nine months on his own as caretaker.

Now the 36-year-old has become the permanent appointment. On signing a two-year-contract, Savicevic announced that his priority would be to qualify for Euro 2004.

Another great player from the past, Vladimir Petrovic, is to coach the Under-21 team. The 47-year-old played for Red Star Belgrade and Arsenal during the 1970s and 80s, and won 34 caps.

Partizan Belgrade had no problems in overcoming a poor Hammarby side in the Champions League, drawing 1-1 in Stockholm then winning 4-0 at home.

Vladimir Novak

CROATIA

Dinamo in crisis

FORMER champions Dinamo Zagreb have been riven by a power struggle that resulted in the resignation of director Velimir Zajec and technical director Marijan Vlak. Coach Miroslav Blazevic, the former national team boss, also stood down after only one match in charge of the financially troubled club, but was persuaded to stay on by president Mirko Barisic.

Blazevic took his initial decision following Dinamo's disappointing 1-1 draw with Cibalia on the opening day of the season. The result also sparked rows between club officials and vice-president Zdravko Mamic – the true power behind the club – about the way it was being run.

Blazevic and Zajec handed in their resignations together, followed by Vlak. And while Blazevic later withdrew his, the other two stuck by their decision.

Zdravko Reic

● Serbian club Leotar made a sensational start to **BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA'S** new unified national championship by beating Muslim side Bosna 9-0 away on the first day of the season. Leotar are one of six sides from the country's Serb Republic Srpska that have been admitted to the championship from this season. Previously, only Muslim and Croat clubs participated.

ISRAEL

Levi quits as FA boss

FA CHAIRMAN Gavri Levi caused a major shock just before the new season was due to kick off when he announced he was stepping down. His statement came in the wake of a stormy annual general meeting during which members argued about whether the FA should allow the chairman to receive a salary. The ugly scenes as well as allegations of vote-rigging are thought to have precipitated Levi's decision to go.

There was doubt over whether the League season would get under way on time as no broadcaster had been secured to air football on TV with just two weeks remaining before the scheduled mid-August kick-off.

Sports Channel, which had paid more than £80million in a six-year rights deal with the FA, was unable to meet its payments for this, the third season, and was still owing instalments for the previous season, too, according to the governing body.

In typically blunt fashion, the FA claimed the contract was null and void, and that it was seeking an alternative broadcaster.

Maccabi Haifa reached the third qualifying round of the Champions League after easily overcoming Belshina Bobruisk of Belarus 5-0 on aggregate. Maccabi, like all Israel's European representatives, are being forced to play their home matches in foreign countries as UEFA maintains that Israel is off-limits because of the volatile security situation.

Ori Lewis

MACEDONIA

League format tweaked again

THE FA has decided to change the League format again this season after the system used last term proved unpopular with supporters.

This season, as last, the 12 top division teams will play each other home and away during the first phase. But the split into championship and relegation pools is to be scrapped. This term, the teams will all play each other again, making 33 rounds of matches in total.

Champions Vardar and Sloga Jugomagnat have been ordered to play their first four home League matches at least 100km from their own stadiums following the hooliganism that marred the sides' meeting on the final day of last season. Players and officials were showered with stones from angry fans, who felt the match had been fixed. Vardar, who had to beat Sloga to see off the challenge of Belasica, won 2-0.

Vardar made a good start in the Champions League, beating F91 Dudelange of Luxembourg 4-1 on aggregate. But they came unstuck in the second round, losing 3-1 at home to Legia Warsaw and unable to overturn the deficit in the return in Poland, drawing 1-1.

The Skopje club, who have retained coach Gjoko Hadzievski for another season, signed international keeper Gogo Jovcev and Brazilian forward Rogerio Oliveira.

Cementarnica were early fallers in the InterToto Cup, losing 4-3 to Iceland's FH Hafnarfjordur.

There were a number of coaching changes in the run-up to the new season. Former national team boss Dragan Kanatlarovski was sacked by Belasica, while Mirsad Jonuz left Pobeda to join Rabotnicki Kometal. Jonuz was replaced at Pobeda by Zoran Smilevski. Alekso Mackov is the new coach of Kumanovo after the departure of Vlatko Kostov, while Momcilo Mitevski is back at Sileks.

Michel Stojmanovski

MALTA

Paolites progress

HIBERNIANS beat Shelbourne 3-2 on aggregate in the Champions League to become only the fourth Maltese club to make it past the first round of Europe's top club competition. The Paolites drew 2-2 at home then went through thanks to Nigerian Ndubisi Chukunyere's late winner in Ireland.

Sliema Wanderers landed the first silverware of the domestic season by beating Birkirkara 2-0 in the final game of the Lowenbrau Cup.

Sliema signed defender Jeffrey Chetcuti from Valletta, who in turn drafted in Keith Fenech from Rabat Ajax to fill the void left by the departure of Czech Kamil Dvorak to his homeland.

Title favourites Birkirkara signed international midfielder George Mallia and national Under-21 keeper Justin Haber, both from Floriana.

Newly-promoted Marsaxlokk have been the most active on the transfer front. The latest recruits are Roger Walker, from Sliema, and Justin Tellus, from Marsa on a one-year loan.

Domenico Aquilina

Happy Wanderers...Sliema celebrate their Lowenbrau Cup triumph

Pro-file Radomir Djalovic

Yugoslav striking prospect crossing the divide to Croatia

RADOMIR DJALOVIC is a Balkans footballing pioneer. By moving from Red Star Belgrade to Zagreb this summer, the 19-year-old became the first player to leave a leading Serbian club for one in Croatia since hostilities erupted in the old Yugoslavia more than a decade ago.

Although scars remain on both sides from the conflict, some observers believe the Djalovic transfer could prove the first, tentative step on the road to normal relations between Serb and Croat.

Not that Djalovic sees himself as a diplomatic ground-breaker. To him, the decision to move to the Croat champions was purely for football reasons.

A highly regarded Yugoslav youth international, he spent last season on loan from Red Star at Belgrade neighbours Zeleznik. And with Branko Jelic, Mihajlo Pjanovic and Dragan Bogovac already ahead of him in the queue for Red Star attacking berths, and another forward, Igor Bogdanovic, arriving this summer from Vojvodina, Djalovic simply felt he would have more first-team opportunities at Zagreb.

He readily accepted their offer of a four-year contract – a move that caused deep displeasure to Red Star youth team coach Jovan Acimovic. The former Yugoslav international revealed how he had often championed the youngster's cause and slammed the club management for allowing Djalovic's contract to run out, thus making him fair game for a free-transfer raid.

"Djalovic is an excellent young striker. He's quick, two-footed and a natural scorer," declared Acimovic. "I am sorry he left us. It's very sad to see young talent go. We often complain about all the good young players who leave the country, and then we let someone like Djalovic go."

By contrast, Zagreb could not be more satisfied. In Djalovic they have a fine young prospect, a ready-made replacement for Ivica Olic should, as seems likely, the Croat World Cup striker move West soon. "Djalovic has a great ability," says Zagreb coach Ivan Katalinic. "It's incredible to think we picked him up for free."

In the late 1980s, a young Croat midfielder called Robert Prosinecki was released by Dinamo Zagreb, only to make a big name for himself at Red Star Belgrade. Will Djalovic's career take off in similar fashion now that he has moved in the opposite direction?

Nick Bidwell

Fact file

Club Zagreb (Cro)
Country Yugoslavia
Born October 29, 1982, in Bijelo Polje
Previous clubs Jedinstvo Bijelo, Red Star Belgrade, Zeleznik

Zenga makes National news

Jonathan Wilson on the former Italy keeper's surprise arrival in Bucharest

ROMANIA

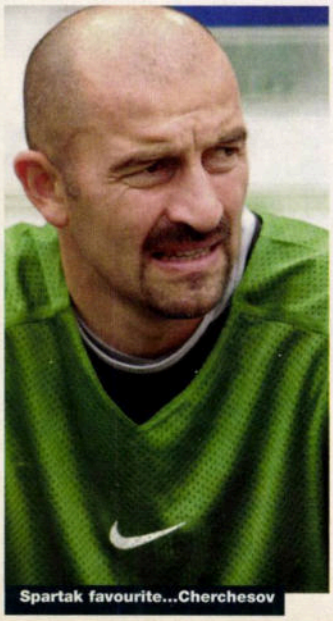
THE big shock of the Romanian summer came with the appointment of former Italy goalkeeper Walter Zenga as coach of National.

The Bucharest club's financial problems were so great that, only a few weeks earlier, their participation in the championship had been in doubt. However, the persistent efforts of chairman Gino Iorgulescu, and investment from International Sports Management – a company run by Romania's most influential agent, Giovanni Becali – turned things around. The new money made possible the offer to the former Internazionale and New England Revolution keeper, for whom former Romania defender Dan Petrescu will act as assistant.

"I have come here because I like adventure," said Zenga, who first met Iorgulescu at a UEFA Cup tie between Inter and Sportul Studentesc in 1984. "I have always been a globetrotter, and this was a great opportunity to see another football culture and another country. I hope to give my players a winning mentality."

Timisoara will still have a club in the top flight next season despite UMT's relegation. Promoted AEK Bucharest have moved their base to the western city and renamed themselves Politehnica AEK Timisoara.

Globetrotter...much-travelled Zenga has found a new challenge in Romania


Spartak favourite...Cherchesov

RUSSIA

Top keepers come home

MOSCOW SPARTAK prodigy Dmitri Sychev, 18, was born the year Stanislav Cherchesov started playing for the club. Now one of the country's top goalkeepers, Cherchesov, just short of his 39th birthday, is back with Oleg Romantsev's squad for his third spell.

Cherchesov also played for Lokomotiv Moscow and Dinamo Dresden but spent the past six seasons with FC Tirol. Having returned to Austria after the World Cup, where he was a non-playing squad member, he found his club bankrupt. Romantsev's phone call solved the problem. Stas, as Cherchesov is called by Spartak fans, packed his bags and flew to Moscow. Romantsev wants him to combine the roles of back-up to Ukraine international Maxym Levytskyi and goalkeeper coach.

Russia's first-choice keeper, Ruslan Nigmatullin, has also made a surprise return. Nigmatullin left Lokomotiv Moscow for Verona earlier this year but spent most of his time on the bench. He has now joined CSKA Moscow on loan from the relegated Italian side until at least the end of the year.

Victor Gusev

UKRAINE

Shakhtar beaten at last

SHAKHTAR DONETSK'S record unbeaten League run was finally ended after 55 matches when they surprisingly lost 2-0 away to newly promoted Volyn-1.

The champions had not lost a League game since July 2000, and it was the first defeat under Italian coach Nevio Scala.

"The players weren't motivated enough," he said. "Probably they felt themselves invincible after their victory over Kyiv Dynamo in their previous match."

That win over Dynamo kept Shakhtar top of the table, but their defeat by Volyn dropped them to third behind new leaders Dnipro and Kyiv side Arsenal.

Shakhtar and Dynamo both strengthened their squads ahead of the Champions League third qualifying round. The champions brought in Uruguay international Damian Rodriguez from Nacional and promising young Brazilian forward Brandao from Sao Caetano.

Dynamo also looked to South America, buying two Brazilians – forward Leandro from Flamengo and Diego Rincon from Internacional. They also signed 21-year-old Moroccan playmaker Badr Kadduri from Wydad Casablanca.

Oleg Zadernovsky

BELARUS

Belshina hit the buffers

DOUBLE winners Belshina Bobruisk are in serious financial crisis and a lowly ninth in the table with just under half the season remaining.

Coach Viacheslav Akshaev questioned his players' attitude and hinted he would quit following their humiliating 4-0 defeat by Maccabi Haifa in the first leg of the Champions League second qualifying round. "There's a clear lack of motivation in our players," said Akshaev. "Because of this we are now facing serious problems in the League and Europe. If this situation continues I'm ready to resign."

Modest Neman Grodno remained top after 15 League rounds, two points ahead of another unheralded side, Torpedo-MAZ. The latter's coach, Sergey Frantsev, unexpectedly quit despite their progress this season. He was succeeded by former Belarus coach Sergey Borovskiy.

Ljudas Rumbutis has quit struggling Molodechno-2000, with Alexander Kisten appointed caretaker until the end of the season.

Oleg Zadernovsky

CZECH REPUBLIC

Poborsky back with a bang

KAREL POBORSKY got off to the best possible start on his return to the Czech League, scoring the only goal of Sparta Prague's opening game, against Teplice, and winning the man-of-the-match award.

The international midfielder joined title favourites Sparta earlier this summer after a number of years in England, Portugal and Italy.

Sparta coach Jozef Jarabinsky has also bought goalkeeper Petr Kouba, another star of the Czech team that reached the Final of Euro 96.

Kouba replaces Petr Cech, who has joined Rennes in France following his excellent performances in the Czech's victorious European Under-21 campaign in Switzerland.

Three other members of the Euro 96 team have returned to the domestic League. They are midfielders Radek Bejbl (Slavia Prague) and Jiri Nemec (Chmel Blsany), and defender Miroslav Rada (Teplice).

Roy Kitson

AUSTRIA

Pasching make instant impact

PROMOTED SV Pasching, many people's relegation favourites before the new season kicked off, are now having to be taken seriously after starting with victories over Karnten, Grazer AK and Salzburg without conceding a goal.

In 42-year-old coach Georg Zellhofer, who has led them to four promotion campaigns since arriving at the club in 1996, Pasching have an outstanding tactician, and there is more than sufficient ability in the side. Forwards Wolfgang Mair and Edi Glieder arrived in the summer from insolvent FC Tirol, the midfield trio of Michael Horvath, Dragan Sarac and Volkan Kahraman has constantly impressed, as has Turkish defensive recruit Kafkas Tolunay and veteran Belarus libero Alex Melitski.

Just as surprising as Pasching's impact was the arrival at Second Division SV Mattersburg of Austria midfielder Didi Kuhbauer. Now 31, he was released by German Bundesliga side Wolfsburg and moved to the Austrian lower divisions after no top-flight club showed an interest.

Nick Bidwell

POLAND

No-show RKS go down

RKS Radomsko have lost their top-division place by default after failing to turn up for a replay of their relegation/promotion play-off match against Second Division Garbarnia Szczakowianka Jaworzno.

RKS, who finished third bottom of the top division last season, lost the original tie against Garbarnia 2-1 on aggregate. However, the club appealed to the FA after learning that Garbarnia had fielded an ineligible player.

The FA confirmed that Yugoslav Branko Rasic had not been registered to play, and after long deliberation suggested the teams should play off again in a one-off tie at a neutral ground.

RKS chairman Tadeusz Dabrowski refused to accept this, proposing instead that the federation extend the top division to 17 teams from 16 to accommodate them both. The FA duly gave a walkover to Garbarnia, who have now started their Premier Division campaign. Dabrowski, meanwhile, has said he will appeal to both UEFA and FIFA.

Polish clubs, most of whom are already in financial trouble, suffered a further blow when it was announced that they would receive 30 to 40 per cent less money from the TV agreement with Canal Plus than for the past two years. The cable channel recently announced that it would have to renegotiate the contract – originally worth £67 million – because of financial problems.

Dariusz Kurowski

Winner...Poborsky scored for Sparta Prague on his return to Czech football

SLOVAKIA

Slovan look to Kadolsky

SLOVAN BRATISLAVA, the country's most popular club, have turned to coach Dusan Kadolsky to restore the team's pride after they finished a disastrous sixth out of 10 in last season's championship. Radolsky was previously in charge of the national Under-21 team.

Slovan's arch rivals, Inter Bratislava, look unlikely to mount a serious title challenge. Financial problems have forced them to sell playmaker Juraj Czinege, to Austria, and star defender Roman Kratochvil, to Turkey, only underlining the difficulties faced by new coach Karol Pecze, back in Slovakia after a four-year stint in Turkey.

Roy Kitson

AZERBAIJAN

Boycott goes on

THE League boycott, which began in April, shows no sign of coming to an end, with the dissenting clubs now having played their own championship and Cup Final.

Shamkir won the rebel league, but were beaten by Neftchi in the Cup decider. Neither competition was recognised by the FA.

Meanwhile, no Azeri clubs are participating in European competition this season because the FA refused to send the necessary documentation to UEFA for the country's participants.

The clubs began their boycott because of alleged refereeing bias and FA corruption. They have refused to start a new championship campaign until the FA holds elections.

Vladimir Kalinkovich

ARMENIA

National team win Oscar

OSCAR LOPEZ, the Argentinian coach who took the reins at defending champions Pyunik only four months ago, has been named as Armenia's first foreign national coach.

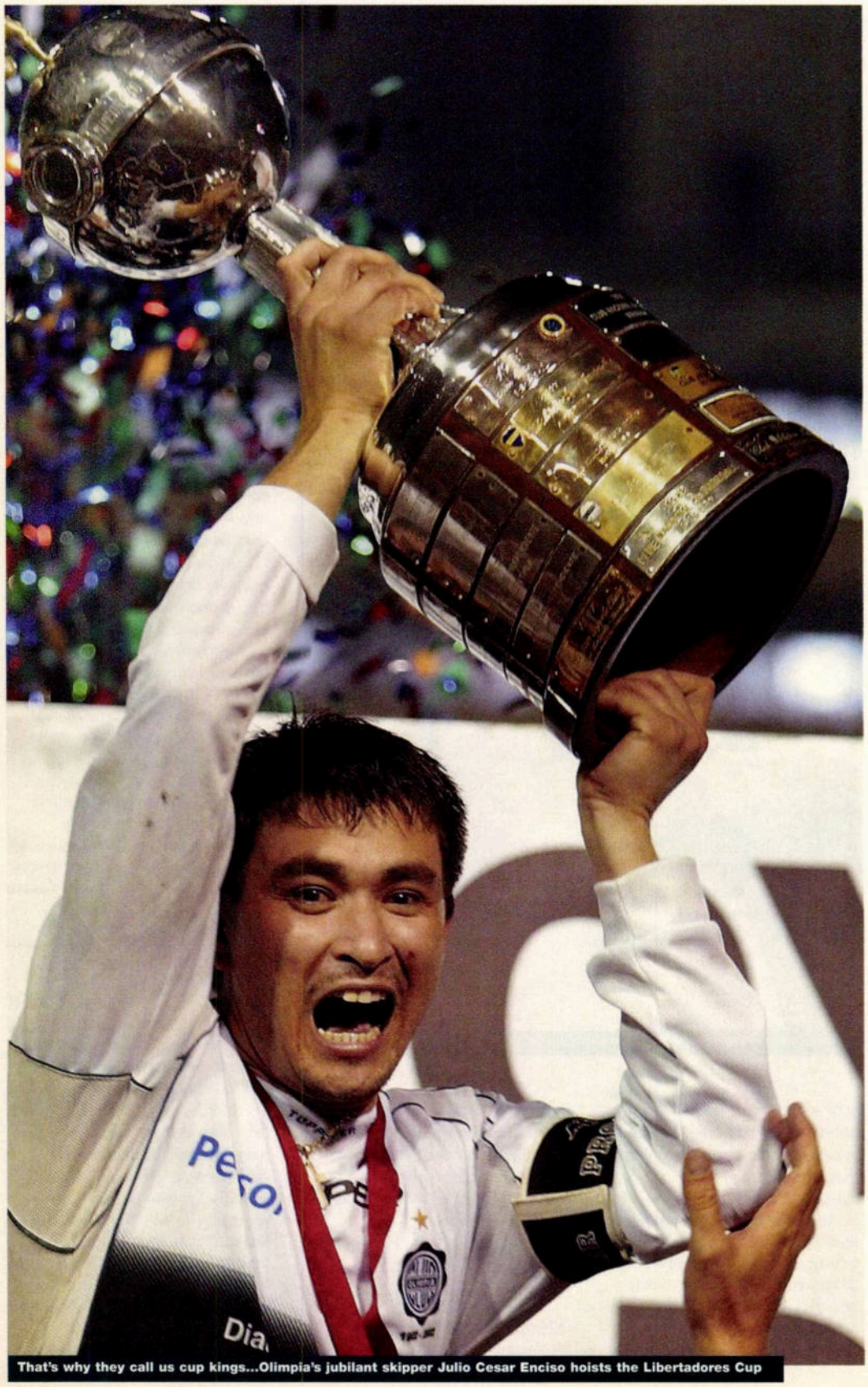
The 63-year-old was handed the reins after leading Pyunik to seven successive wins in the domestic championship. The team also beat Finland's Tampere United 6-0 on aggregate in the Champions League first qualifying round, and though they lost 6-2 overall to Kyiv Dynamo in the next round, they managed to hold the Ukrainians to a 2-2 draw in the second leg.

Lopez will continue to coach Pyunik despite his new appointment.

Vladimir Kalinkovich

Olimpia on top

Tim Vickery sees the Paraguayans overcome Sao Caetano of Brazil in the Libertadores Cup Final



That's why they call us cup kings...Olimpia's jubilant skipper Julio Cesar Enciso hoists the Libertadores Cup

FOR 11 years Brazil and Argentina kept a stranglehold on the Libertadores Cup, South America's Champions League. But the run was broken by Olimpia of Paraguay, who beat Brazil's Sao Caetano in a penalty shoot-out in this year's Final.

Known as the Cup Kings, Olimpia celebrated their centenary in style, showing the traditional virtues of Paraguayan resilience en route to their third Libertadores title.

Olimpia had been beaten 1-0 at home in the first leg, and the mood in the camp deteriorated still further when players were spotted in a nightclub at 5am. It prompted the resignation of club president Oswaldo Dominguez Dibb, who declared himself disgusted with the lack of professionalism in the ranks.

In the second leg, in Sao Paulo, Olimpia found themselves a goal down on the night and two down on aggregate. Whatever coach Nery Pumpido said at half-time worked wonders, however, for an aerial bombardment early in the second half brought them two quick goals. Thereafter, Sao Caetano rarely looked likely to break the deadlock, even when Olimpia's Victor Quintana received his customary red card.

For the fourth successive year the Final went to penalties, and there was little doubt as to which side would better hold their nerve. Sao Caetano's Marlon and Serginho blazed over the bar, Olimpia kept their aim and the trophy went to Paraguay.

The occasion seemed too big for tiny Sao Caetano. Formed in 1989, they have come from nowhere to the brink of glory over the past two years. Twice, they have finished runners-up in the Brazilian national championship, and once again they were unable to take the last step.

In Brazil losing a Final is considered more humiliating than an early elimination. After falling at the final fence in their homeland in 2000 and 2001, the team and coach Jair Picerni found themselves weighed down with the tag of 'nearly men' going into the Libertadores decider.

They knew the stakes were high as they kicked off the second leg with their one-goal advantage. Victory would help establish them at Brazil's top table; defeat could well be the first step on the unforgiving road back to obscurity.

Undermined by nerves, their passing game seldom hit its usual fluency, and Picerni was banished to the stands after a touchline bust-up. This lapse provided his enemies at the club with all the ammunition they needed. Two days later he was forced to resign – an inglorious end for the mastermind of a remarkable rise.

For all Sao Caetano's slips, Olimpia proved themselves worthy champions. On the way they knocked out holders Boca Juniors of Argentina and highly fancied Brazilians Gremio; a record of just six goals conceded in seven away games speaks for itself.

Under former Argentina goalkeeper Pumpido, Olimpia played with solid footballing sense and good players in key positions. Julio Cesar Caceres (see profile) provided defensive class, Julio Cesar Enciso shielded the back four in fine style, the Uruguayan Sergio Orteman added midfield dynamism (and deservedly won the player of the tournament award) and Richart Baez was a willing leader of the front line.

But they are far from being the best team to win the trophy. Indeed, the fact the Final was between two unfashionable sides speaks volumes for the current chasm between football's two traditional continents. In Europe, financial clout allows the traditional giants to buy players who can tip the balance. In South America, the absence of money levels the playing field.

The Olimpia team could broadly be divided into three groups: those on their way to Europe (Caceres and Orteman); those returning from Europe (Quintana, loaned back because his move was not a success; Miguel Angel Benitez because age and injury have reduced his effectiveness); and those not considered good enough to go to Europe (most of the rest).

They combined to form a team of many virtues. But if they were able to become the continent's best, it can only be seen as a consequence of South America's economic problems.

This year's competition got off the ground only after the clubs were obliged to accept a 30 per cent reduction in prize money. Then there was the bankruptcy of PSN, the TV channel that broadcast the Libertadores across the region. In stepped Fox Sports, but that channel is not available in Brazil. So the country that takes up half the continent (and supplied half the semi-finalists) saw almost nothing of the action.

The current structure of the competition was introduced three seasons ago and seems sound. Half the field of 32 are eliminated in the group stage, after which home and away knockout ties are played all the way to the end. It is less convoluted than Europe's Champions League, but this hardly matters while the economic disparity exists.

Gremio pinned their hopes on international centre-forward Luizao, signed especially for the Libertadores. But once the World Cup was over he jumped ship, worried he might pick up an injury that would jeopardise a move to Europe. It almost certainly cost the team a place in the Final. Gremio gave the Olimpia defence a tough time down the flanks, but lacked a cutting edge.

The other semi-final losers were America of Mexico, who until that point had looked likely winners. When Mexican sides were first invited to participate in 1998, many thought they were only there to make up the numbers. Instead, their relative economic strength soon made itself felt. With a League containing many quality foreign players and coaches, Mexican football now boasts a tactical sophistication and a technical level South America cannot easily match.

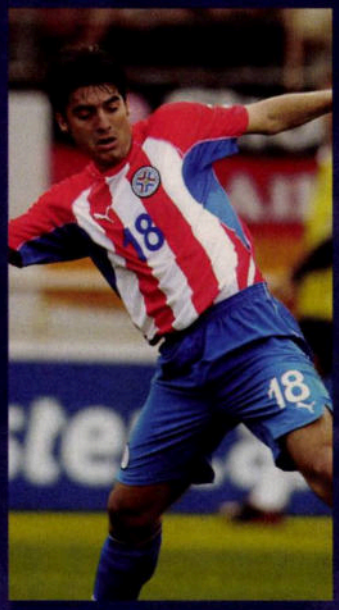
Once they had found their feet, the Mexicans became serious title candidates. Last year Cruz Azul were denied only on penalties, and America seemed poised to go one better. But the pause for the World Cup broke their momentum, and an injury to playmaker Frankie Oviedo robbed them of their rhythm. Their success also seemed to upset the authorities. They were certainly unlucky with the refereeing in the semi-final.

Even had America won the trophy they would not have been allowed to represent South America in the annual Tokyo clash against the winners of the UEFA Champions League.

CONMEBOL would clearly prefer a South American team to win its premier club competition. But with the continent deep in crisis, the future of the Libertadores depends as much on politicians and economists as it does on players and administrators.

Pro-file Julio Cesar Caceres

Olimpia's number 5 with Milan in his sights



CESARE MALDINI'S attempt to coach Paraguay from his base in Italy was always likely to end in tears. He struggled to remember the names of the players and his failure to get to grips with local culture did not go down well.

But in one respect, at least, the veteran Italian left Paraguayan football in better shape than when he found it. On one of his rare visits he identified "Olimpia's number 5" as worthy of a call-up to the national team.

And now, with a successful World Cup and a Libertadores Cup triumph behind him, Julio Cesar Caceres looks set to be a key player for Paraguay for years to come.

However, his path to stardom has been long and winding. Caceres grew up poor in a remote rural part of the country, and even after moving to the capital, Asuncion, to join Olimpia in 1997, there was no immediate escape from tough economic choices. He often had to walk miles to training after using his bus fare to buy food. Perhaps it was because of such precarious conditions that he took over three years to make his first-team breakthrough.

Caceres had always specialised as a defensive midfielder, but towards the end of last year Olimpia had a crisis at centre-half, and the youngster was moved back to fill the gap. Almost by accident, he had found his true vocation. With his excellent anticipation, superbly timed tackles and crisp distribution, having the play in front of him made it easier to stamp his authority on the game.

Magnificent form in the Libertadores convinced Maldini that Caceres would be a World Cup asset, and with a shrewd piece of tactical thinking he was incorporated into the team. The new boy came in at right-back, freeing the gifted Francisco Arce to push forward. When Paraguay were under pressure, Arce dropped deeper and Caceres moved inside to become a third centre-back.

After the World Cup, Caceres returned to Olimpia with his sights set on winning the Libertadores. An excess of football might have taken its toll. Well though he played in the semis and the Final, he fell slightly short of the standard he had set earlier in the year.

He will have to raise his game once more if his expected move to Europe goes through. Milan, presumably because of the Maldini connection, have already made an enquiry. "I'm aware clubs are interested in me," says Caceres. "But before moving on I want to go the full circle with Olimpia, because they opened up the path for me."

Now it is up to him to see how far ahead the road will stretch.

Tim Vickery

Fact file

Club Olimpia
Country Paraguay
Born October 5, 1979, in San Jose dos Arroyos
International debut April 2002, v England
International caps 5 (0 goals)
Honours Libertadores Cup 2002; Paraguayan League 2000

Put it there...Scolari is quick to congratulate Ronaldo at the World Cup but he was less than charitable about his star striker after the tournament

Scolari leaves at the top

The World Cup-winning coach has quit to spend more time with his family, writes Brian Homewood

BRAZIL

AFTER five weeks of indecision, Brazil coach Luiz Felipe Scolari has decided to vacate the hottest seat in the game. Big Phil quit after an amazing 14 months that began with defeats by Honduras and Bolivia and ended with seven successive wins at the World Cup and an unprecedented fifth title.

The man whose arrival in June last year was seen as a death-knell for the so-called Beautiful Game instead went some way towards reviving it. Though his team will not go down as one of the great Brazilian sides, it was probably the most entertaining since the 1986 World Cup. Eighteen goals scored and four conceded in seven games is good going by anyone's standards.

Scolari denied that his departure had anything to do with the idea of quitting while he was ahead. "If that were the case, I would not have stayed on at Gremio after we won the Libertadores in 1995 or at Palmeiras after we won in 1999," he said.

And he was even more adamant in denying that money was at issue, as some sectors of the media had rather maliciously claimed.

"The people who are suggesting this have no brains," he said in his usual forthright style. "In 14 months, we [Scolari and federation president Ricardo Teixeira] have only talked about money once. I took a wage cut to become coach of Brazil."

Instead, Scolari said, he wanted to dedicate more time to his family – believed to be instrumental in his decision – and maybe try his luck coaching in Europe. "Any club that hires me will become winners," he promised. "And if they are winners already, they will win even more."

Whether or not it is behind his decision, Scolari is certainly leaving on a high. Since the World Cup, the transformation in his own image has been almost as remarkable as the one he performed on Brazil.

Fourteen months in the international spotlight have trimmed his wilder excesses, and the man who habitually clashed with referees, got sent off and publicly ordered his players to foul the opposition is now seen as a loveable, fatherly figure – albeit a rather grumpy one.

The new-look Big Phil is a favourite with advertisers and, since the World Cup, he has even outdone Ronaldo in the marketing stakes, appearing in prime-time commercials for fizzy drinks, television sets and long-distance phone calls.

Scolari was sent off only once during his Brazil reign – in a Copa America tie against Paraguay – and the sanitised surroundings of the World Cup did not offer the chance for some of his naughtier tactics, such as ordering ball boys to disrupt the opposition's attacks by hurling spare balls on to the field.

Not that he has completely lost his cutting edge. Scolari, occasionally, remains too frank for his own good. Shortly after the World Cup, he took his family on a skiing holiday in the Chilean Andes, where he launched an astonishing attack on Pele. "Pele knows nothing about football," he said. "If you want to win a competition, you have to listen to what he says – then do the opposite."

Back home in southern Brazil, he turned his guns on Ronaldo, claiming the Phenomenon would never regain the fitness he enjoyed before his two knee operations and then saying that, before the World Cup, he had to be retrained to play for the team. "Ronaldo was – how can I say it? – a spoilt player," he said.

Cue attack of morale outrage from the Brazilian media, followed by double-pronged assault on Big Phil from past and present heroes. "I think Scolari's upset because since the World Cup everyone has been talking about Ronaldo, Rivaldo and Roberto Carlos," said Pele, while Ronaldo commented: "Some people don't know how to behave after they've won."

In fact, there was more than a grain of truth in both comments – probably why Scolari tweaked nerves in each case – and nothing outrageous enough to justify the vitriolic attacks that came from some quarters.

Scolari announced his decision to step down at the federation's spanking new headquarters, an hour's drive from the centre of Rio de Janeiro, where Teixeira and his crew are splashing out £20,000 a month to rent an entire floor of a plush corporate block.

Teixeira claims the organisation that runs the five-times world champions deserves something better than its previous grubby headquarters in central Rio. Critics say the move is an extravagance at a time when the federation (CBF) is in chronic financial difficulties, and when it owns the building it has vacated.

The real reason behind the move is believed to be connected with the thorny issue of parking. The old building has no garage, just a few reserved spaces in the street. That means everyone has to walk a few metres to the front door. Ever since Brazil's Congressional investigations into the CBF found a host of irregularities, Teixeira has been subject to jokes and insults every time he steps into public view.

The new headquarters has enclosed underground parking, backs on to a swamp and faces a wide, American-style avenue, where vast spaces separate the buildings and where cars rule, not pedestrians.

In short, Teixeira – "an exile in his own country," according to *Lance* columnist Juca Kfouri – can drive in unnoticed and unmolested.

Brazil's success in Japan has naturally been of huge benefit to Teixeira, deflecting attention from the allegations surrounding his administration and leading to suggestions that all should be forgiven. On the other hand, Scolari's departure is a blow for him as there are no obvious candidates for a job that has suddenly become considerably less attractive. Coaching Brazil in the World Cup – when the squad is together for a good five weeks – is one thing, but trying to lead them through a South American qualifying competition strewn with potential pitfalls is another.

Carlos Alberto Parreira, who led Brazil to their 1994 title, has always argued that the latter is more difficult. As he points out, Brazil have to contend, at various stages, with high altitude, intense heat, freezing cold and hostile stadia – and the latter includes home matches if Brazil don't score in the first half-hour.

They never have more than two or three days to train before each game yet they are always expected to win by a country that looks scornfully down its nose at most of its neighbours. As Scolari said when asked if he fancied coaching Chile, who finished bottom of the last South American qualifying tournament: "I'd rather be in charge of a team that has nine places to go up than one that has nine places to go down."

Teixeira could get a few ideas from the Brazilian championship if he actually hung around to watch it rather than just jetting off to Zurich, where he is usually to be found.

The competition began on August 10 amid huge optimism, based largely on the World Cup win rather than hard facts. In fact, the 2-0 Final win over Germany merely speeded up the exodus of players abroad, with Belletti, Gilberto Silva, Juninho Paulista, Dida, Luizao and Edilson all joining the foreign legion. That left only seven members of the World Cup squad taking part in their country's showpiece tournament.

Veteran striker Romario, controversially omitted from the World Cup by Scolari, was involved in the biggest move, joining Fluminense from Rio de Janeiro rivals Vasco da Gama. The 36-year-old, irrepressible as ever, scored twice on his debut in a 5-1 win over Cruzeiro.

The dance of the coaches got into full swing in the week before the tournament started. Jair Picerni was shabbily dismissed by Sao Caetano, who decided that reaching the Final of the Libertadores Cup was actually a failure. He was replaced by Mario Sergio but quickly found a new job at Guarani when they sacked Ze Mario after a poor pre-season tournament.

Cruzeiro began the championship with no coach after Marco Aurelio resigned three days before the start to take up a post in Japan.

Working...but Big Phil claimed Ronaldo had to be "retrained" to play for Brazil

Round-up

THE South American confederation (**CONMEBOL**) has stated that it will continue to use a single, 10-country qualifying group for the 2006 World Cup, as it did for this year's finals tournament. This means each team play an unwieldy 18 games, but to cut congestion CONMEBOL has proposed beginning the qualifiers in 2003, a year ahead of other qualifying tournaments. The confederation also confirmed that the next Copa America would be staged by Peru in 2004.

In **URUGUAY**, Penarol have unveiled a bronze statue of their most popular player – 37-year-old midfielder and team captain Pablo Bengoechea. Fans started a collection for the monument, which stands at the club's sports complex, two years ago.

Argentinian striker Daniel Jimenez scored five goals in the first three games of the opening championship, but Penarol's eternal rivals Nacional topped the table after five games.

Alvaro Fina, president of the **COLOMBIAN** FA, has been fined £8,300 for signing commercial contracts for last year's Copa America without consulting with the organising committee.

Slight modifications to this season's league format mean next year's Libertadores Cup places will be taken by the winners of the opening championship (America), closing championship (topped by Independiente Santa Fe after four games) and the side with the most points overall.

The **CHILEAN** players' union has protested at the suspension of relegation for the next two years to allow the First Division to be expanded from 16 clubs to 20. "In every activity there must be competition to maintain interest," said union president Carlos Soto.

Coach Angel Cappa has left Universitario of **PERU** just shortly after leading them to the opening championship. The Argentinian took his decision when it became clear that the financially strapped club were unable to comply with his contract terms.

Most clubs are in financial difficulties, but the richest, Sporting Cristal, topped the closing championship with maximum points after three games.

Eric Weil

Racing certainty...Osvaldo Ardiles enjoyed a winning start with his new club

Ardiles replaces sour Merlo

Eric Weil on an unexpected development at Racing as the season gets under way

ARGENTINA

REINALDO MERLO'S surprise resignation as Racing Club coach, less than a week before the start of the season, opened the door for Osvaldo Ardiles to return to Argentinian football.

The former international midfielder, who has been coaching in Japan in recent years, took the post after Merlo walked out following a dispute over new signings. Merlo had given a list of players he wanted to Fernando Marin, head of the company that runs the club. However, without the coach's knowledge, a separate 10 players were signed.

Racing fans erected a statue of Merlo after he won the 2001 opening championship with the club. But their adoration could not persuade the coach to stay. He said: "I could not agree with Fernando Marin on many things."

Ardiles enjoyed a winning start to his reign, as Racing beat Huracan 3-1. The game had a relative glut of goals as five of the other nine opening-day encounters ended 0-0.

Off the field, San Lorenzo have gone into receivership as expected, with debts of £30 million. Meanwhile, hooliganism made a quick return, with fighting between River Plate and Newell's Old Boys gangs leaving two supporters seriously injured.

At press time, it looked almost certain that Marcelo Bielsa would continue as national team coach, with a meeting of the FA committee poised to confirm a new contract.

When Argentina were eliminated after the group stage at the World Cup, there was a clamour to sack Bielsa, whose contract expired on June 30. A newspaper poll showed that ex-Velez Sarsfield and Boca Juniors boss Carlos Bianchi was a big favourite, while FA president Julio Grondona said the natural candidate should be Jose Pekerman, who has enjoyed much success with the national junior teams. However, the FA has already announced that all Bielsa's staff have been retained – an indication that the coach himself is likely to stay on – while most national team players have said they want Bielsa to continue.

The coach also appears to have resolved his pay dispute with the FA, which almost led to his resignation before the World Cup.

The other Arsenal come good

ARSENAL won the domestic Double in England, but they were not the only club of that name to enjoy success this year. Their Argentinian counterparts, from the working class Sarandi district of Buenos Aires, fulfilled a long-held dream by winning promotion to the top division for the first time.

Sarandi Arsenal were founded in 1957 by a group of neighbours led by now Argentinian FA president Julio Grondona and his brother Hector. Forty-five years later, it is still in the family. Julio's son – also named Julio – is president of the club, and Hector's son, Gustavo, a first-team player.

In the early days, Julio Grondona senior and Hector also played for the team. Hector still holds the club record for appearances (347) and goals (169).

But why the name? Julio Grondona senior, who still lives in Sarandi, where he has an ironmonger's shop, explains: "The first of several suggestions was Defensores de Sarandi. Then goalkeeper Moises, who had a pronounced stutter, said "A...A...Ars...Ars", and we weren't quite sure what he meant, but we laughed so much and it sounded like he wanted to say Arsenal and we adopted the name, hoping that one day it might make us just as famous as the London club."

The club affiliated to the Argentinian FA in 1961 and began playing in the lowest (fifth) division, gradually clawing their way up to their current position. They are now coached by Jorge Burruchaga, scorer of Argentina's winning goal in the 3-2 victory over Germany in the 1986 World Cup Final.

Julio Grondona senior never comes to watch the team now, feeling it would enforce rumours that they are in some way being helped by the FA, but he is still their greatest fan. As soon as a match is over he always calls up from wherever he happens to be to find out the result.

Arsenal are suffering from the country's financial crisis, just like most of the other clubs. Their situation is exacerbated by poor support and a dilapidated stadium, which is likely to force them to play most of their top-flight games elsewhere. Their first match, against fellow new boys Olimpo of Bahia Blanca, was a case in point. It was played at Lanus' stadium, in front of only 3,600.

At least Arsenal won, 1-0, though they have a long way to go and little prospect of spending any money on new signings. However, if their English namesakes could lend them some surplus players...

Three goals...Jose Cardozo

MEXICO

Cardozo hits first-day hat-trick

PARAGUAYAN forward Jose Cardozo made the biggest impact on the first day of the opening championship, with a hat-trick in Toluca's 3-0 win over Necaxa.

Santos also enjoyed a winning start despite losing coach Fernando Quirarte during the summer. Quirarte had opened discussions about taking over at Guadalajara, where he once played. But that fell through and in the meantime Santos appointed former Atletico Celaya boss Sergio Bueno.

Cruz Azul have the most costly team in Mexico and the top striker, Sebastian Abreu, but their opening day home defeat by Tecos typified their tendency to underperform. Juan Francisco Palencia has returned to the club after Spanish side Espanyol, where he was on loan, would not pay the asking price.

Daniel Passarella had a winning start to his reign at Monterrey – they beat Atlante 2-0 – and appears set to utilise the natural leadership qualities of midfielder Jesus Arellano, which other coaches – including World Cup boss Javier Aguirre – have never done.

Pumas UNAM coach Hugo Sanchez has been tipped as the next national team boss, along with Toluca coach Ricardo Lavolpe, following Aguirre's move back to club football with Osasuna in Spain.

Carlos Ramirez

Gazza goes home

DC United's move for the Englishman was always a non-starter, writes Paul Gardner

UNITED STATES

THE Paul Gascoigne fiasco is over. Goodbye Gazza – and if it's not exactly good riddance, there is a palpable feeling that MLS has escaped what could have been a most troublesome episode.

DC United coach Ray Hudson – like Gazza, a Geordie – thought the player had enough left in him to make a contribution to their season. True, DC, with the worst record of MLS's 10 teams, needed help, but the vision of Gazza as saviour smacked of desperation. And could it possibly be worth the risk of bringing in a self-confessed alcoholic and wife-abuser who was already having trouble finding a club that would sign him?

MLS commissioner Don Garber evaded the issue by saying "everyone deserves a second chance". He seemed unaware Gazza had already been given quite a few second chances.

The point is it is the League that signs players, not the clubs. Garber's deputy, Ivan Gazidis, has repeatedly said MLS wants to avoid being thought of as a refuge for over-the-hill players. A firm "no" from Garber would have cut short the whole affair. But Hudson was allowed to pursue Gazza.

It was announced he would be brought to Washington "for a trial". Exactly what was being tested was not made clear. But Gazza's agent, Ian Elliot, supplied an answer. Apparently, it was MLS and American soccer, not Gazza, that were on trial. His client would look around and decide if everything was good enough for him.

We were also informed Gazza was willing to take a huge pay cut (the maximum he could expect with DC would be £3,300 a week), even though he had many more lucrative offers from clubs in Europe. These clubs were never named, though one of them was said to be in Dubai, not usually thought of as part of Europe. Anyway, the key thing, Elliot insisted, was that Gazza "has always wanted to play in the States". "Always" seemed to be overstating things a bit, but it was not the last statement to stretch the imagination.

Gazza duly arrived, and the fact he was not overweight was hailed as a sign that he was taking the trip seriously. He dawdled his way through a not particularly serious training session, then told the TV cameras: "All I want is to enjoy me football."

The following day the Gazza bandwagon started to come off the rails. He watched from the stands as DC United lost to the second worst team in the League, New England Revolution. Then came the post-game party, for players and fans. Gazza stayed until after 1am; over four hours of drinking and smoking. Almost immediately DC's enthusiasm cooled. Hudson said the club needed a goalscorer, and maybe Gazza "would be a victim of that".

One more practice session, then Gazza was on his way back to England for "pressing business reasons". The deal was off. Hudson said: "The timing wasn't right" – obvious nonsense, given the timing was known before the trial began.

The Gazza adventure had failed miserably, as anyone with his eyes half open had known it would. Even had he, by some miracle, performed well for DC, it would merely have confirmed MLS's critics in their belief that it is a second-rate league.

Asked why he hadn't simply killed the venture before it got going, Garber added yet another surreal piece of reasoning, saying: "When we start telling clubs which players they can sign, the press lands on us." Pressure from the media? The problem is not that the media attack MLS – but that they barely deign to notice it.

Brief encounter...Gascoigne gets the lowdown from DC United coach Ray Hudson

Picture imperfect

Africa's top club competition is being let down by poor TV coverage, writes Mark Gleeson

Hard graft...for Ivory Coast club ASEC (in yellow), arranging TV coverage of their Champions League campaign is a burden

ON PAPER, the African Champions League is a massive fillip for cash-strapped clubs, offering the kind of revenue potential of which few teams can dream. Prize money of up to £700,000 for the winner may be petty cash in Europe but in Africa it is a sum that can go a long way.

Only the eight teams that qualify for the league phase share in the spoils of close on £2.7million, a sum put up by French company Sport Five, who are now the owners of original rights holders Groupe Jean-Claude Darmon.

It is always a scrap to get into the last eight but the competition remains heavily weighted against the clubs. Cleverly written into the fine print by the French marketing company are odious conditions for the televising of the matches, which in many cases eradicate much of the financial windfall and actually turn the event into a debt-producing burden.

Participating in the Champions League, which got under way again in August, requires that the clubs are responsible for the televising of their home matches and ensuring an international signal for the other broadcasters to receive. In countries like Egypt and South Africa this is no problem. Broadcasters clamour for the rights, and the clubs do not have to pay the facility fees to ensure the match is televised.

But in most African countries there is no adequate television infrastructure, and outside companies have to be brought in to film the games, at cost to the home club. For example, Mozambican team Costa do Sol and TP Mazembe of the Democratic Republic of Congo have to fly in crews and equipment from South Africa at a cost of around £50,000 per game for their three home group matches. Should they not win any group game, their minimum payment of £170,000 will be all but wiped out, and they still have large travel bills for the three away ties.

The French have done little to try to improve the look of the event, particularly the TV coverage. They leave it to the clubs, insisting on minimum standards but never seeking to add any innovations themselves.

Cost-cutting seems their only motivation. Broadcasts must have a minimum of six cameras and two slow-motion machines, but in Ivory Coast, for example, there are never more than four cameras on site and hardly ever any slow-motion action.

There is no attempt to help augment or replace ageing equipment, hence, after six years, coverage still looks the same – washed-out pictures, shoddy camera work, few slow-motion replays and captions with incorrect spellings and information.

Commentary in French and English is done from a studio in Johannesburg, adding to the amateurish presentation. The attitude, unfortunately, is that at least there is TV coverage.

When the Champions League was launched in 1997 this was a major achievement for the continent, but these standards are no longer acceptable, particularly with the 2010 World Cup due to be staged by Africa.

● The group stage of the Champions League campaign got under way in sensational fashion with defeats for defending champions Al Ahly and three-times winners Raja Casablanca.

Al Ahly's 2-1 loss to Jeanne d'Arc of Senegal was only the third time they had been beaten at home in continental club competition. It was a major upset, particularly given the Egyptian team's high-profile pre-season signings and the appointment of former Nigeria coach Jo Bonfrere.

Al Ahly were pre-tournament favourites in Group A, along with Raja Casablanca, twice African champions since 1997 when the new league format was introduced. But the Moroccans were beaten 2-0 by Democratic Republic of Congo's TP Mazembe in atrocious conditions in Lubumbashi, on an almost grassless pitch that would be rejected for an amateur game on any other continent.

Group B's start, by contrast, was predictable. Abdelhalim Ali's hat-trick gave Egyptian champions Zamalek a 3-1 triumph over ASEC Abidjan in Cairo, while Riadh Jelassi scored the only goal as Tunisians Esperance beat Costa do Sol 1-0 in Maputo.

League pays for clubs to go under

SOUTH AFRICA'S Premier Soccer League employed a novel way of reducing its size – spending £1million to buy the franchise of two clubs then putting them out of business.

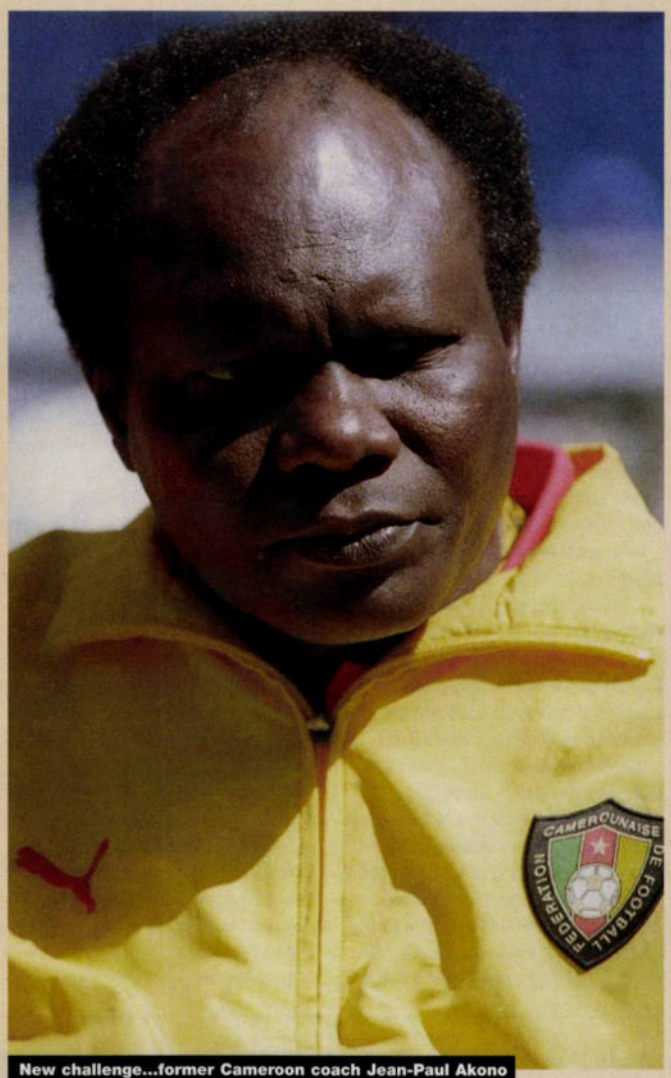
The move came after a long-standing proposal to cut the League to 16 teams because of fixture congestion and a decline in income for the country's professional teams was finally accepted at a meeting of clubs in Johannesburg.

Club chairmen were presented with the option of buying out two clubs immediately ahead of the new season or waiting until the end of the season next May by relegating two and doing away with promotion. They went for the former, and around £500,000 each was offered for two teams to go out of business. Within five days Free State Stars and Ria Stars agreed to have their franchises bought. The two immediately ceased to exist but still have the right to sell the players they have under contract.

The 18 Premier League clubs share £3.6million each season, primarily from television rights. A 16-team League will mean an additional annual grant of £215,000 for each club. The space created in the calendar will also allow more matches for the national team, the FA's major source of revenue.

Mark Gleeson

Schafer stays on, Akono takes helm in Chad



New challenge...former Cameroon coach Jean-Paul Akono

CAMEROON have given German coach Winfried Schafer a two-year extension to his contract, while one of his predecessors, Jean-Paul Akono, is now the new national coach of **CHAD**. Akono was one of four coaches used by Cameroon in their 2002 World Cup qualifying campaign and led the Under-23 team to the gold medal at the Sydney Olympics.

Elsewhere in **CENTRAL AFRICA**, Dutchman Martin Koopman has been asked to coach the **DR CONGO** national team, months after arriving in the country to take charge of club side AS Vita. Meanwhile, the Congolese had to cancel a trip to Belgium after being refused visas.

Henri Endzanga is the new national coach of **CONGO**. He took the post after Romanian Eugene Moldovan rejected it.

EAST AFRICA

The **TANZANIAN** FA has suspended 56 referees who announced they would boycott matches involving a Dar-es-Salaam club, whose officials they accuse of having a "habit of assaulting referees".

ETHIOPIA'S national coach Asrat Haile has also taken over at club side Nyala, and former Poland coach Wojciech Lazarek has taken over **SUDAN'S** national team. Lazarek was in charge of Polish Second Division side Jagiellonia Bialystok in 2001-02.

NORTH AFRICA

TUNISIA'S World Cup coach Ammar Souayeh has stepped down through ill health. His replacement is Youssef Zouaoui, who will work alongside Khemais Laabidi.

Brazilian striker Reinaldo and compatriot Alexandre di Sales have signed for Etoile Sahel.

Veteran German coach Otto Pfister has taken over at CS Sfaxien. His old job at Zamalek in Egypt has gone to Brazil's Carlos Alberto Ferreira Cabral.

EGYPT goalkeeper Nader El Sayed has left Goldi SC to sign a two-year contract with Greek club Akratitos.

The Confederation of African Football will open its new headquarters in Cairo at the end of September.

CAF Cup holders JS Kabylie of **ALGERIA** have appointed Frenchman Jean-Yves Chay as their new coach.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

Highlanders opened up a 12-point lead in the **ZIMBABWEAN** championship as they bid for a third successive title.

In **ZAMBIA**, Zanaco also led by a dozen points at the halfway point of the campaign.

Kaizer Chiefs won **SOUTH AFRICA'S** Charity Cup with an 8-7 penalty shoot-out win over Black Leopards in the Final.

WEST AFRICA

Former Monaco and Toulon coach Christian Dagler has signed a two-year contract to take charge of the **MALIAN** national side. He replaces Henryk Kasperczak, who has returned to his native Poland.

The French duo of Jean Paul Rabier and assistant Frank Tanasi have been appointed to lead **BURKINA FASO** through the 2004 African Nations Cup qualifiers. They will be given a further extension if the team reach the finals.

Sporting Praia have won the League championship on the **CAPE VERDE ISLANDS**, but they beat Batuque only on goal difference.

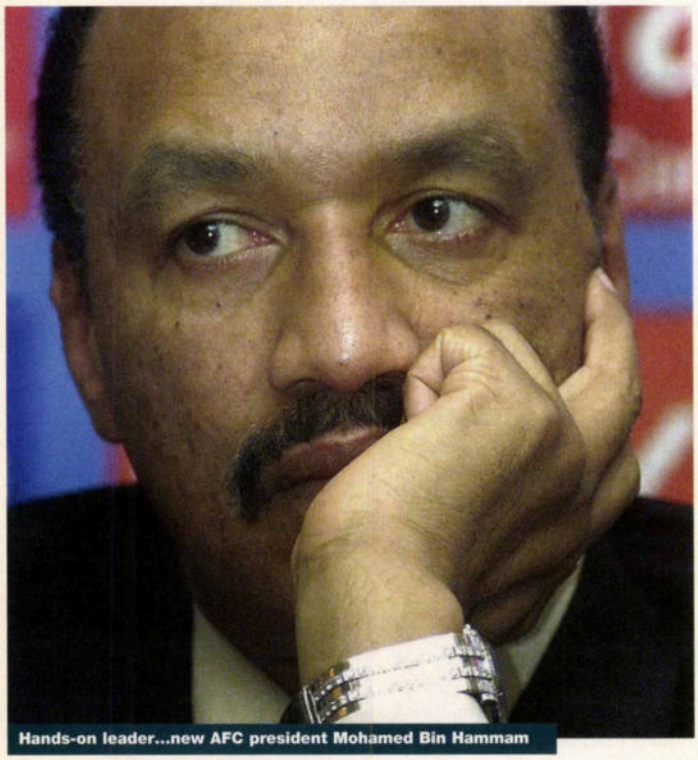
In **NIGERIA**, Enyimba were on course to retain their League title, holding a two-point lead over Iwuanyanwu Nationale.

Mark Gleeson

Going Greek...Nader El Sayed

Hammam takes control

The new federation president promises to take Asia forward, writes Michael Church


Hands-on leader...new AFC president Mohamed Bin Hammam

THE post-Korea/Japan 2002 glow shone brightly at what must have been the most self-congratulatory congress in the 48-year history of the Asian Football Confederation.

After the success of Asia's first stab at holding the global game's most prestigious event, the air was full of overblown rhetoric. Talk abounded from members that the continent had finally come of age.

But amid the bombast and the celebration of the achievements of Japan and Korea on and off the pitch, there was an intriguing aura. Much of it centred on the succession of a new president, Qatar's Mohamed Bin Hammam, who officially took over from Malaysia's Sultan Ahmad Shah after being elected unopposed earlier in the year.

However, after eight years as president, the Sultan was not prepared to oversee the crowning of his successor, snubbing the event to maintain an air of almost abject anonymity despite his place at the head of one of the game's largest confederations.

Ahmad Shah's greatest legacy was the development of the confederation's new headquarters, AFC House, completed in May 2000 on land procured from the Malaysian government on the outskirts of Kuala Lumpur at the Sultan's behest. That, though, was one of his few visible contributions to the development of Asian football. In general, he seemed content to leave the day-to-day work of the confederation to his executive committee and secretariat staff.

By contrast, Hammam has already indicated he will be a hands-on leader. The day before officially taking office he challenged FIFA regarding the number of places on offer for Asia at the next World Cup, claiming the continent's performance in June – when South Korea finished fourth and Japan reached the second round – was good enough to warrant five berths in Germany.

He outlined plans to restructure the way the confederation's affairs are conducted and oversaw the launch of the AFC Champions League, a new club competition set up to replace the Asian Club Championship, Asian Cup-winners Cup and the Asian Super Cup.

The new tournament, which boasts prize money and incentives to 51 clubs from 29 nations totalling £2.7million, has been touted as the most lucrative and important initiative in the history of the Asian game. It could be just what is needed to help the continent take the next step forward. "It is in our hands to improve the game in Asia," said Hammam. "Clubs form the backbone for our success, and we hope the AFC Champions League will provide the new challenge for clubs around Asia to excel and develop on to a higher level."

The competition's format is based on that of the UEFA Champions League. Teams from stronger nations like Japan, Korea, China and Saudi Arabia have been seeded according to their country's previous record in international club competition. Weaker teams enter the tournament at a preliminary stage. The League champions and winners of the premier knockout challenge cup in each nation are eligible to play.

The Champions League has rescued the Asian club scene from increasing disinterest, highlighted by Suwon Bluewings' decision to send a second-string side to Saudi Arabia for the second leg of the Asian Super Cup in mid-July, the final edition of the competition.

The Korean side, who won the Asian Club Championship earlier in the year, had won the first leg against Al Hilal, winners of the Cup-winners Cup, 1-0 thanks to a free-kick by Lee Ki-hyun.

The weakened team gave up their goal advantage in Riyadh when Colombian Ricardo Perez Tamayo struck. The game went into extra-time and, eventually, penalties, where Korean World Cup hero Lee Woon-jae saved Bandar Al-Mutairi's spot-kick as Suwon emerged 4-2 winners.

JAPAN

Perryman departs as Kashiwa plummet

STEVE PERRYMAN became the latest management casualty following Kashiwa Reysol's 2-1 defeat at his old side, Shimizu S-Pulse. It was his team's sixth straight loss since the World Cup and left once-proud Kashiwa on the edge of the relegation zone. With Perryman's departure, all the bottom five clubs had changed their manager during the First Stage.

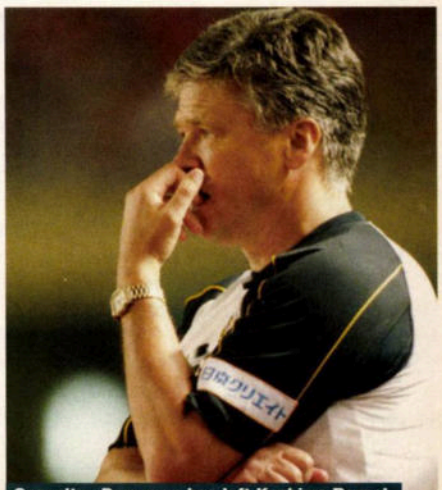
Perryman took over in July last year from the successful, long-serving Akira Nishino, and was soon under pressure. Despite the presence of World Cup players like Tomokazu Myojin, Hwang Sun-hong and Yoo Sang-chul, the formula never quite worked. "Things didn't happen for us," said Perryman, who first came to Japan with Ossie Ardiles at S-Pulse. "I understand the club's position."

Ryoichi Kawakatsu, the J.League's longest-serving manager, also bowed out after three and a half years at the helm of Vissel Kobe, who had slipped to second from bottom.

At the top, Jubilo Iwata and Yokohama F Marinos dominated the First Stage and only a point separated them as they approached the final weekend. Kashima Antlers performed a rare service for their arch rivals of the past few years by defeating Marinos 2-1 in the penultimate round.

The J.League is still basking in the post-World Cup glow. Average Division One attendances are up by over 5,000. The J.League now even feels strong enough to abandon its 'fan-pleasing' extra-time, used when games are drawn after 90 minutes. From next season, games will last only the regulation period, regardless of the score at full time. Extra-time had already been scrapped this season in Division Two.

Mike Plastow


Casualty...Perryman has left Kashiwa Reysol

OCEANIA

Napier tough it out

FAVOURITES Napier City Rovers won the Chatham Cup, **NEW ZEALAND'S** national knockout competition, on home soil. But they beat Tauranga City United 2-0 in the Final only after being made to work hard by the underdogs.

Tauranga twice went close before the hosts took a 23rd-minute lead, Leon Birnie finishing off their first serious attack with a powerful header into the roof of the net.

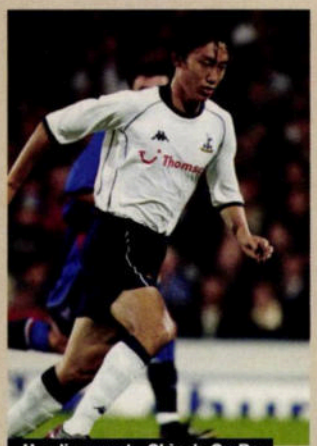
After this, the game became a scrappy, defence-dominated affair but Napier clinched victory in the dying seconds when David Geary intercepted a wayward pass in midfield and found fellow substitute Brad Scott, who scored with a low drive.

● **FIJIAN** national team striker Manoa Masi provided his former team Ba with a huge boost when scoring a hat-trick for Nadroga as they won 4-1 at Lautoka. Defeat ended the Blues' 15-match unbeaten run and dented their League title hopes. Ba won 2-1 away to Suva, giving them a three-point lead over Lautoka with two games in hand.

Paul Moon

Asian round-up

Post-World Cup exodus begins



Heading west...China's Qu Bo

THE much-anticipated exodus of Asian players to Europe following the World Cup finals began in July with Chinese duo Li Tie (see profile) and Li Weifeng joining compatriot Sun Jihai in the English Premier League. The Lis have signed with Everton on one-year loans from Liaoning and Shandong respectively as part of a sponsorship deal between the Merseyside club and a Chinese mobile phone operator.

Tottenham signed another China international, striker Qu Bo, on yet another one-year loan deal, while South Korea's Song Chong-gug has joined Japan's Shinji Ono at Feyenoord.

Meanwhile, Korean midfielder Lee Eul-yong has joined Trabzonspor in Turkey, and compatriot Cha Doo-ri has signed a five-year contract with Bayer Leverkusen. He thus follows in the footsteps of his famous father, Cha Bum-kun, who won the UEFA Cup with the Bundesliga side in 1988.

The **KOREAN** FA has named Park Hang-seo as national coach, in succession to Guus Hiddink. Park, who worked as an assistant to the Dutchman, has been given a two-year contract.

Former **SINGAPORE** champions Home United have fired coach Jason Withe, son of Thailand national team boss Peter Withe.

INDIA'S Mohun Bagan have signed national team captain Bhaichung Bhutia from English Third Division side Bury. Meanwhile, Englishman Stephen Constantine has been named as the new national coach. The 39-year-old was previously in charge of the national teams of Cyprus and Nepal.

Shanghai Shenhua, **CHINESE** champions in 1995, have sacked coach Xu Genbao after a run of poor results.

EAST TIMOR has been accepted as an associate member of the Asian Football Confederation, while **AFGHANISTAN** had its membership reinstated during the AFC's Congress.

Worawi Makudi and Junji Ogura will join Mohamed Bin Hammam and Chung Mong-joon as Asia's representatives on **FIFA's** Executive Committee.

The Saudi Arabia Football Federation has decided not to compete in the Asian Games football tournament in Busan in September and October. They also missed the 1998 Bangkok Asian Games.

Michael Church, Azam Mahmood, Bhasi Malaparamba & G C Das

Pro-file Li Tie

China's top midfielder aiming to make his mark at Everton

THE last year has been good to combative Chinese midfielder Li Tie: a debut appearance at the World Cup, the Chinese Player of the Year award and a move to England with Premier League side Everton have all been secured.

But while one of east Asia's most talented players prepares to take his career to the next level thanks to a one-year loan deal with the Merseysiders, the cynics are already sharpening their knives. Asian players moving to Europe are often viewed with scepticism by press and fans because of concerns that the move has more to do with a club's commercial aspirations than those on the field of play.

On the face of it, the signing of Li, along with compatriot and namesake Li Weifeng, is nothing more than a promotional move for Everton's new sponsors – Chinese mobile phone company Kejian.

But to suggest that the signing of the 24-year-old is little more than a marketing ploy would belittle the talents of one of China's most impressive players of the past two years. Bora Milutinovic claimed Li to be the heart and soul of his team as China qualified for their first World Cup. Before that successful qualifying campaign, Li had been linked with a move to Ajax, which failed to materialise because of his national team commitments.

For Li, the move to England is the fulfilment of a long-held career plan. "When I was 16, my coach asked all the players to write down what we would like to achieve by the age of 25," said Li earlier this year. "I wrote four things: I want to play in the World Cup; I want to be the best player in China; I want to win a national championship [Li was in the Liaoning province side that won the Chinese National Games title in December]; and I want to play overseas.

"In China now we can see football on television from all over the world and I like English football very much. But I have to be careful. If I join a high-level team it will be more difficult. Also, overseas people don't understand Chinese players well."

Gaining a foothold in Everton's first team will prove tough for Li. But for a player who was vilified after China's failure to qualify for France 98, Li has shown character and maturity beyond his years in bouncing back. Now he has an even greater challenge ahead.

Michael Church

Fact file

Club Everton (Eng)
Country China
Born September 18, 1977, in Shenyang
Previous club Liaoning Fushan
International debut January 1997, v United States
International caps 82 (5 goals)

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